

NEXT WEEK . . . SPECIAL EVERTON v SOCCEROOS FEATURE

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SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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NISSAN \$10,000 CHALLENGE WINNER TAKES ALL!

BY LES SHORROCK

"THIS game is going to be no exhibition match, believe me". That was how Victorian Soccer Federation chairman Jack Reilly opened the media conference which announced the sponsorship of Australia v Everton at Olympic Park next Wednesday night.

"I'm sick and tired of hearing about overseas teams coming here for a holiday," he continued.

"The team line-up that you have before you is the same one that won Everton the English First Division championship, and the arrangement is that if that full squad is in any way short, Everton will not get paid.

"As for this game being a mere run for Everton, let me say that we are proud to have Nissan as a sponsor for the game.

"Nissan is putting up a Cup and \$10,000 prize money, winner take all, and I think that should satisfy all the Doubting Thomases that this is fair dinkum".

Reilly went on to say that Zenith Promotions had worked hard to find a match sponsor, and it was the first time that Nissan had ever been involved in promoting Soccer in Australia.

On the matter of the cancellation of the Westay tournament involving Glasgow Celtic, Nottingham Forest, and Manchester United, Reilly said that as an ASF Executive member he knew as long as eight weeks ago that the promoters were in difficulties.

The British clubs were warned then to make sure they got their money before they came.

The failure of tours like these to eventuate, said Reilly, is extremely detrimental to the game's image.

Speaking as an ASF member he said never again would a private promoter be allowed to arrange tours.

Apparently though, there is a slim chance that Glasgow Celtic might tour after all.

The club has indicated that it is still prepared to tour and play a couple of games provided it is guaranteed payment beforehand.



Victorian Soccer Federation president Jack Reilly (left) with Nissan's Noel Bartell.

WEST END NSL TELEVISED BY ABC ON SATURDAYS

BY JOHNNY WARREN

THE West End National Soccer League is to receive unprecedented coverage thanks to the co-operation between SBS and ABC television.

As from next Saturday the ABC will repeat highlights of SBS' "Match of the Day" played the previous Sunday.

The ABC version will be presented by the ABC's Soccer man Peter Wilkins.

The 45 minute highlights package will go to air every Saturday at 2pm during the English off season.

The benefit of such a move is considerable for Australian Soccer as it will go to areas not covered by SBS.

While Soccer fans can thank both SBS and the ABC for the co-operation shown, Soccer should register a vote of thanks to ACT president and ASF vice president Charles Perkins, who initiated the whole affair back in March of this year.

INDOOR PACIFIC READY

THE Australian Indoor Soccer Federation has completed arrangements for staging the Pacific Cup in Australia during early July.

The series will draw national teams from Mexico, the United States, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Australia.

This will just be the beginning of a big Indoor Soccer season

Continued Page 10 ▸

**POAK
TO TOUR
See Inside**

FRINGE PLAYERS MAKE NSW SIDE

BY FRANK COLETTA

THE New South Wales squad selected for the battles against Queensland, the ACT and the Australian Youth team consists mainly of players hovering on the fringe of selection for the Socceroos.

Depending on the final trimming of the national team squad for the clash against Everton, Vest will bring in either Mike Gibson or Anthony Franken as the other goalkeeper alongside APIA's Tony Pezzano and will probably add one more player also.

THE FULL SQUAD IS:

Tony Pezzano (APIA), Anthony Franken (S.Croatia)/Mike Gibson (St.George), Robbie Hooker (S.Olympic), Dakos (S.Olympic), Arno Bertogna (APIA), Ray Viletstra (S.Croatia), Burim Zajmi (APIA), Gerry Gomez (Marconi), Ian Gray (Marconi), Mark Jones (S.Croatia), Peter Tredinnick (APIA) Robbie Slater (S.Croatia), Rod Brown (APIA), David Lowe (Marconi), Abbas Saad (S.Olympic). One goalkeeper to be omitted and one defender to be added.

"It is a young squad," says Vest. "Most of the players are on the fringe of national team selection."

NSW's first outing will be against Les Scheinflug's Australian Youth team next Tuesday at Parklea. Following that will be a clash against the Australian Capital Territory on the Monday the 8th of June and the commitments of the side will end with the inaugural battle against Queensland at Perry Park on the Friday.

Last year the Maroons took the match 1-0.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

- ☆ **THE AUSTRALIANS SQUAD**
Ready for Everton, and then the President's Cup in South Korea.
- ☆ **EVERTON F.C.**
 - The story of the club through to the present day — by Paul Moon.
 - Profiles of the players — Peter Reid, Dave Watson, Graeme Sharp, Pat van den Hauwe, Kevin Ratcliffe & Co.

YOUNGSTERS!

YOUR OWN SPECIAL STORIES AND PUZZLES. See Page 19 for our latest feature — RUSHY'S CORNER.

It is certainly a valid question at this stage to ask whether consolidation of the National Soccer League into one 14 team (now 13) competition is proving a success.

Perhaps the interim answer is a guarded 'yes', but there are many aspects to evaluate and some answers will only emerge in the course of the season.

At the outset it should be observed that the inopportune wind-up of Sydney City cost the League a few thousand admissions per week.

Clubs were hit in the hip pocket nerve, and especially those who might have enjoyed big receipts from a Slickers' visit.

Next, on the vital point of the standard of football, it would be fair to estimate a 30% rise from 1986.

To date there is little evidence that major clashes are drawing as well as might have been expected.

And, on top of that the fever-pitch divisional finals will be non-existent.

Although promotion and relegation has been made more understandable the throwing of Brisbane and the major development centres to the wolves will be proved to be counter-productive in the medium term.

Few will deny that the purpose of the 1986 'rules' was to assist the main Melbourne clubs over their hurdle, but have they?

The attendance figures don't bear this out.

To Round 8 there have been 167,068 people attending league matches, to the extent that they can be believed.

We say to that extent because the League continues to leave itself in a ridiculous position by allowing the Melbourne club crowds to be roughly estimated in round thousands.

It is high time that the clubs themselves learnt to count and became realistic. In fact the Executive, headed by Mr Sam Papasavas, has a duty of care to the code to act immediately.

Percentage wise Sydney has 53% of the attendances, Melbourne 38% and Adelaide 9% to date.

Sydney's margin per game runs further ahead as it has five teams to Melbourne's seven. And there probably would be an additional increase because the figures from Sydney are more believable.

Out of the picture is Brisbane, which deserves one club, possibly playing on headquarters at Perry Park.

Just because there is promotion and relegation overseas does not mean that it fits in Australian Soccer any more than it does in Australian rules or rugby league.

Wollongong and Canberra still have potential, and possibly Newcastle could get its act together some way in the future.

Not much can be said for the 'system' used to eliminate these cities, and there still remains big possibilities in two 10 team north and south regional leagues, playing at least three rounds.

Many reasons can be advanced for the Melbourne crowd slump and that includes a number of sub-standard grounds.

In NSW, Queensland and the ACT there are huge reservoirs of players who back up the game.

They bring little through the gate, but they provide a latent back up and a big reservoir of talent.

Overall there appears to be seven players in NSW for each one in Victoria.

The management survey of the Victorian Soccer Federation should see that the juniors are decentralised and district Associations allowed to grow.

To do otherwise is to continue to lock the expansion of the playing side of the sport in jail and throw away the key.

Realistically looking back at the present attendances, it can be seen that two clubs — Sydney Croatia and Sydney Olympic — provide 30% of the league total crowds between them.

Sydney Croatia's average home attendances exceed 7000 and Sydney Olympic 5000. It is no accident that, after allowing for Olympic's slump, these are clubs who have quality players and who are prepared to go out and attack.

Of the others it is probably APIA-Leichhardt who have done so much and are reaping the benefits at the gate.

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YANKOS RELISHES THE CHANCE

BY KEITH GILMOUR

CHARLIE YANKOS, captain of Australia's Winfield Socceroos, is delighted to have the chance of playing against English champions Everton at Olympic Park next Wednesday (June 3).

It all relates to some of the past action he has seen — highly competitive games against England (1983) and since then Manchester United and Nottingham Forest (1984) and Tottenham Hotspur (1985).

"Some of these games were tough — I am sure that playing Everton will help to give us the competitive edge that we need," Yankos said.

Everton was last in Australia in 1964. It was the days of great defender Brian Labone, Jimmy Gabriel and Welsh international Roy Vernon.

The Englishmen won through 4-1 in a game that national youth coach Les Scheinflug will well remember along with Leo Baumgartner, Karl Jaros, Herbert Ninaus and many others.

The Sydney Cricket Ground played host to a huge 51566 crowd on the day.

Everton later beat Australia 8-2 in Melbourne and 5-1 in Sydney and then absolutely thrashed Western Australia 14-1 in Perth.

Australian coach Frank Arok has devised his strong defensive cordon tactics and although from time to time he has changed this to throw men forward, the system is likely to prevail when facing the English champions.

Jeff Oliver's damaged thumb has improved and he is likely to take his place as first choice custodian.



OSCAR CRINO

Robbie Dunn, who missed last week's camp, and Gary McDowall have overcome knocks, and should take their places in the team. Alan Hunter has a strong chance of touring.

Alan Davidson's form is gradually improving, so he could edge out Wally Savor due to his experience in the English First Division with Nottingham Forest.

Tommy McCulloch's injury has ruled him out as a midfield prospect. Australia will gain if Zarko Odzakovic can play, but it could be a risk.

Peter Raskopoulos' form has improved like magic, but Arok will have to make a late judgment over Oscar Crino's possibility of appearing.

If fit, Crino's ability to hold the ball would be well worth having.

Chris Kalantzis' club form has been way below par. Graham Arnold should be an automatic choice, with Andrew Zinni and Frank Farina both possibilities.

Charlie Villani's super

skills have at last won recognition, although he might not see active service until the campaign in South Korea.

All in all, and following the superb skill and fervour of the Coventry-Tottenham FA Cup final, it looks like a tremendous game coming up at Olympic Park.

WINFIELD SOCCEROOS

GOALKEEPERS

JEFF OLVER
TONY FRANKEN
MIKE GIBSON

DEFENDERS

WALLY SAVOR
GRAHAM JENNINGS
(capt) CHARLIE YANKOS
ROBBIE DUNN
GARY McDOWALL
ALAN HUNTER
ROBBIE WHEATLEY
JEAN-PAUL DE MARIGNY
ALAN DAVIDSON

MIDFIELDERS

PAUL WADE
TOMMY MCCULLOCH
ZARKO ODZAKOV
PETER RASKOPOLOUS
OSCAR CRINO
SERGIO MELTA

STRIKERS

GRAHAM ARNOLD
FRANK FARINA
ANDREW ZINNI
CHRIS KALANTZIS
CHARLIE VILLANI
OFFICIALS
FRANK AROK
EDDIE THOMSON

HEIDELBERG UNITED
SYDNEY CROATIA
ST GEORGE

SYDNEY CROATIA
SYDNEY CROATIA
LEICHHARDT APIA
MELBOURNE CROATIA
SOUTH MELBOURNE
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MARCONI
ST GEORGE
MELBOURNE CROATIA

SOUTH MELBOURNE
MARCONI
SYDNEY CROATIA
SYDNEY CROATIA
FOOTSCRAY
ADELAIDE CITY

SYDNEY CROATIA
MARCONI
BRUNSWICK UNITED
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
ADELAIDE CITY

COACH
ASSISTANT COACH



JEFF OLVER

EVERTON

OFFICIALS

Paul Bracewell, Wayne Clarke, Alan Harper, Adrian Heath, Bobby Mimms, Derek Mountfield, Neil Poynton, Paul Power, Pat van den Hauwe, John Embrell, Kevin Ratcliffe, Peter Reid, Graeme Sharp, Kevin Sheedy, Ian Snodin, Neville Southall, Trevor Steven, Gary Stevens, Dave Watson.

Howard Kendall (manager), P. Carter (chairman), W. Scott (vice chairman), J. Greenwood (secretary), J. Search (director), K. Tamlin (director), M. Heaton (coach), T. Darracott (assistant coach), I. Irving, J. Clinkard (physiotherapist), D. Huggins (tour organiser).

WORLD YOUTH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP CHILE 10-25 OCTOBER 1987



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OCEANIA EXAMINES FIJI

THE Fijian Football Association seems certain to face disciplinary action after its abandoned game with Queensland at Perry Park last month.

Although an Oceania confederation hearing may not be convened until the recent troubles in Fiji subside, Oceania President Charlie Dempsey has called for a judiciary after viewing a video of the abandonment.

The video suggests there is a case to answer," Dempsey said.

And the video only shows the events which led up to the double send-off in the 60th minute. The referee's report is expected to allege an assault of a linesman by a Fiji team official which prompted the abandonment.

Although FIFA banned Fiji for 12 months in 1985 after a match against New Zealand had been abandoned, Dempsey is not keen to involve the World Soccer governing body this time.

"In Europe and South America they don't go to FIFA everytime to solve problems within their own area," Dempsey said.

"Oceania is 21 years old this year, we now have the key to the door so to speak, and I think we are old enough to make our own disciplinary decisions."



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THE "RALLY!" COLUMN



RALE RASIC — the man who led Australia to the 1974 World Cup and current APIA coach writes for ASW and he holds nothing back!

SOCCER is a game of magnificent diversity. Big events have been taking place nationally and internationally and this week I'd like to trace a few of them.

The topics range from Melbourne club Sunshine George Cross, Drago Sekularac, the National team, to Maradona and the FA Cup final.

Firstly, a little ray of Sunshine. Here is a team that has had a bad spell.

Last season they showed a lot of character to rise to fourth place in the Southern Division, but particularly I'd like to talk about their round 8 encounter with us at Chaplin Reserve.



Dragoslav Sekularac

We began well and could have gone three or four ahead by halftime.

During the interval I warned my players that the grass was long, the pitch bumpy, it was windy, and not to let them into the game.

I don't know whether John Gardiner blasted or blessed his players, but in the event they dominated for 40 of the 45 minutes of the second half and scored two very good goals.

Many teams couldn't do that against us, and it is hard to believe that they didn't claim a point at the end.

Sunshine's ground is inadequate for the NSL and they don't have big support.

I don't condone spitting and throwing things by some of their supporters, and I don't see why my assistant Mike Urukalo had to have two kilos of turf thrown at him.

But their club management was very hospitable

CONTINUED FROM BOTTOM COL 1

and they have some good young players in addition to Paul Trimboli and John Markovski.

We saw great goals from Rod Brown and Markovski, and referee Evan Venios was brilliant — obviously influenced by Neil Midgley in the FA Cup final.

Gems

Within 14 days we saw Napoli win the Italian title in front of 82,000 fans and then little Coventry City come home before a 100,000 crowd at Wembley in the English FA Cup final.

Look first at the achieve-



DIEGO MARADONA

ments of that incomparable little genius, Maradona.

• In 1979 in Tokyo he was the Player of the Series in the World Youth Cup.

• Then last year — single-footed — he won the World Cup by himself for Argentina.

• Now in 1987 he takes Napoli to the Italian championship — for the first time ever. Football-wise, economically and however you look at it, Naples couldn't be a happier city!

• And reflect back to those World Cup games in Mexico where he mesmerised both Belgium and England.

Never has there been a footballer such as Maradona. He is at his peak of perfection.

Cup Joy

Many times we have seen English Cup finals where the players were tense, physical and nervous.

This one was the exception — the skill factor dominated.



CYRILLE REGIS

Chris Waddle, Glenn Hoddle, Clive Allen, Dave Bennett, Cyrille Regis, Ossie Ardiles... so many skilful players... that second goal by Keith Houghton... the supply by Bennett... Waddle's damaging cross to Allen at the start... Regis and Bennett — they supplied so much.

Going out just to win is one thing — playing magnificent football is another. What a glorious advertisement for super skilled football!

Who to Pick

When I write about national squad selections I don't want to be misunderstood. Every coach has his own ideas, he selects dif-

ferently from someone else for some reason or another.

I don't want to be thought to be acting smart, but at the same time it seems to me that a lot of Soccer experts think along the same vein.

And that is that few Soccer lovers would exclude Arno Bertogna, Gerry Gomez, Rod Brown and Robbie Slater from their selections.

Not that Gomez is at his best but he very quickly could be.

Alan Davidson, one of the biggest contributors to the National team in recent years is not in form and the brilliant Oscar Crino has hardly played for quite a

while.

Mike Gibson is a doubtful selection, and Alan Hunter was quoted as saying that he is 5kg overweight.

Brown is an introverted fellow, but treated right, nothing would hold him back.

For my money Bertogna and Gomez would outplay any two stoppers in Australia.

Bertogna, Gomez, Brown and Slater would open everyone's eyes if they had a big tournament behind them.

Finally I must say that my views are offered in friendly spirit, and that I don't think that my football judgement is letting me down just because two of the four players suggested are playing under

me.

Comments Invalid

Well, that's the story on Sunshine George Cross, Maradona, the FA Cup and the National team.

Now to Sekularac — a master player who one radio commentator the other day, in offhand fashion, acknowledged that he had played a few games for his country.

Let's get the record straight. In his heyday Sekularac strode across the world stage like a giant.

He regularly played for Yugoslavia, and his name

was mentioned in the same breath as Pele, Eusebio and Beckenbauer.

At only 17 he first appeared for Yugoslavia against Czechoslovakia.

Harking back to the World Youth Cup here in 1981, Evaristo came and disclosed fresh and worthwhile coaching ideas.

In Australia our isolation and under-development in Soccer means that we are maybe 20 years behind the times.

Only Sekularac and Vedralan Rozic have the knowledge to update us.

Surely that means can be found to let them unlock their vast football understanding to benefit the game.



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Sydney Croatia	8	6	1	1	19	6	13
Marconi	9	4	2	3	15	10	10
South Melbourne	8	4	1	3	11	9	9
Brunswick	8	4	1	3	7	6	9
Melb Croatia	9	4	1	4	10	13	9
Adelaide City	8	2	4	2	12	8	8
Heidelberg	9	3	2	4	17	17	8
Preston	8	2	3	3	7	8	7
Olympic	8	2	3	3	10	12	7
St George	8	3	1	4	8	13	7
Footscray	8	1	2	5	3	13	4
Sunshine	8	-	2	6	9	22	2

ST GEORGE 2 (C Moffit, G Fletcher) SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (R Slater) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4950.

LEICHHARDT 2 (R Brown, P Katholos) PRESTON 0 at Belmore Sports Ground. Crowd: 3548.

MARCONI 3 (F Farina, G Gomez, D Lowe) SUNSHINE 3 (C Gilder, J Markovski, R Markovac) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 1486.

BRUNSWICK 1 (A Zinni) FOOTSCRAY 0 at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: 2800.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 1 (P Lewis) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (C Kalantzis) at Olympic Park. Crowd: 1000.

HEIDELBERG 1 (L McKinna) SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (S Stevenson) at Heidelberg. Crowd: 9000.



NSL TOP SCORERS

ROD BROWN 10	JOHN KOSMINA 5
APIA-Leichhardt	Sydney Olympic
ROBBIE SLATER 8	CHARLIE VILLANI 4
Sydney Croatia	Adelaide City
LAWRIE MCKINNA 6	PAUL LEWIS 4
Heidelberg	Melbourne Croatia
FRANK FARINA 5	IAN WALLACE 4
Marconi	Melbourne Croatia
GRAHAM ARNOLD 5	PAUL WADE 4
Sydney Croatia	South Melbourne

LAST-GASP PENALTY SAVES MARCONI

BY STEPHEN SHELDON

A penalty two minutes from fulltime by midfielder David Lowe enabled Marconi to salvage a last gasp 3-3 draw with bottom-placed Sunshine George Cross at Marconi Stadium.

While Lowe's goal helped Marconi avoid an embarrassing defeat, the team's performance did little to instil confidence in the Marconi fans.

Indeed, the home team looked anything but championship contenders and, despite the star-studded line-up, they seemed jaded, lethargic and out of touch.

Only midfielders Ian Gray and Lowe, and defender Tony Henderson, displayed anything like the form of which they are capable.

Surprisingly, perhaps, it was Sunshine -- languishing at the foot of the ladder and previously with only one point to their credit -- who showed the greater urgency and will to win.

Leading the Sunshine charge were Australian Under 19 strikers Paul Trim-boli and John Markovski, who posed a constant threat to the Marconi defence, and hard tackling midfielder Roger Bain.

The match was characterised by some lackadaisical defence by both teams and it was hardly surprising that the goals flowed so freely.

The first, in the 21st minute, fell to Sunshine striker Carl Gilder, who stabbed a cross from the left by Markovski into the bottom left corner.

In the 37th minute Marconi equalised when striker Frank Farina tapped in a pass from the by-line by Lowe and a minute from the break midfielder Gerry Gomez posted his first League goal for Marconi with a cracking header from short range.

But Marconi's period of domination was shortlived and, in the 57th minute, Markovski drove home a harmless looking long ball by Bain which keeper Bob Catlin seemed to lose sight of in the sun.

Markovski's goal shifted Sunshine into overdrive and in the closing stages they had the Marconi defence severely stretched.

APIA, with a powerful first half display that brought them two goals, rocketed to outright lead of the West End National League when they beat Preston 2-0 at Belmore Sports Ground on Sunday.

APIA looked as if they were going to steam-roll Preston in the second half, but not so.

Preston took the initiative and had Apia on the ropes hitting long balls into space that had Apia turning.

Both centre-backs, Charlie Yankos and Arno Bertogna, had to pull out all stops to keep an inspired Preston scoreless.

APIA's coach, Rale Rasic, jubilantly heaped praise on one of his defenders, Mark Brown.

Said Rasic: "Mark Brown must be the most under-rated defender in the National League."

Preston almost drew first blood as early as in the ninth minute when striker, Steve Smith latched onto a bad back-pass by Bertogna.

Smith streaked away on a 30 metre raid but his final shot was blocked well by Apia's goalkeeper, Tony Pezzano, who saved with his boot.

But the 10th minute saw Apia open the scoresheets when the League's top scorer, Rod Brown added to his tally of nine goals.

A well measured, flat cross from the right by midfielder, Alex Bundalo, saw Brown zip into the first post to smash a three metre first time hit into the target.

Midfielder Peter Katholos made it 2-0 in the 15th minute when he crashed home a 12 metre 'bomb'

from a lovely ball laid on for him by Mark Brown.

APIA looked terrific in the first session as Katholos, Bundalo and Tredinick smacked around some lovely first time balls all over the wide, open spaces of Belmore Oval.

But, they handed over control to Preston in the second half.

Preston's midfield of Ron Campbell, Zoran Ilioski, Zoran Tasevski and John Stewart all worked hard during this period and refused to accept Apia's assumed superiority in name and goals.

Preston hit long balls into space that had Apia constantly turning with Campbell threatening with monotonous regularity.

Preston's best move came in the 57th minute when Ilioski cut back a brilliant ball to centre-box for Campbell. He blasted at the target but again Pezzano denied the Victorian's a scalp.

After the match, Apia's skipper, Bertogna, stated: "Again we didn't play all that well and can improve heaps. But we are still collecting valuable points even though we haven't hit our peak".

A disappointed Preston coach, Bill Murray, commented: "We allowed Apia too much space in the first half and they fully exploited us".

Best performers for

STEVE BLAIR and team-mate PAUL WADE go up for a header against Heidelberg.



APIA were Jean-Paul de Marigny, Katholos in the first half and Pezzano, whilst Preston's best servants were Campbell and Jackson till he went off

with a torn hamstring.

APIA: Pezzano: M.Brown, Bertogna, Yankos, De Marigny: Katholos, Bundalo (Butler 75th) Tredinick: Zajmi, Brown, Ward.

PRESTON: Triandis: Opaninis, Jackson (Jolevski 48th) Piculovski,

McLennan: Campbell, Ilioski, Tasevski, Stewart: Dimovski (Go-jevic 68th) Smith.

Referee: B.Montevarde. Crowd: 3,548.

Yellow Cards: Jackson, Opaninis.

SAINTS CAUSE MIGHTY TO FALL

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IF ever Frank Arok did his homework right it was in this St George 2-1 win that sent Sydney Croatia reeling off the top of the table at St George Stadium.

Loner Frank went against the trend all the way, as St George became the first side to record a win after having stood down for the bye.

His chart of Sydney Croatia results showed that, match after match, their re-

sults were becoming less impressive.

An upset was overdue if his team could deliver. He trained them so hard on the Saturday that it took them 15 minutes into the game to find their land legs.

Then, to upset Croatia he played four forwards. Graeme Fletcher, Scott Ollerenshaw, Kevin Hagan and Andy Koczka were up front, with the latter often slightly withdrawn to ably handle some vital distribution tasks as well.

Vedran Rozic's outfit wasn't prepared for this, and couldn't settle to it.

The methodology was complete with some blood -- curdling tackles, mainly by Alex Lampropoulos on Robbie Slater.

Which in itself poses a question. If Slater is such a key man in what is about the best team in Australia, why doesn't he get a look-in with

the national squad?

Although they sorely missed the injured Zarko Odzakovic, Sydney Croatia recorded the first goal when Slater angled home in the 33rd minute.

Right from the start Canberra referee Bob Marshall was under criticism for not letting the game flow. Generally it would be interesting to be allowed to have a peek into the inspector's report on the day.

In the 51st minute Craig Moffitt tucked away a chipped Hagan free-kick from 10 metres outside the box.

Later Hagan strolled up for a penalty kick after Tony Franken had fouled him and the latter was able to touch the shot onto the crossbar and away.

Finally, with seven minutes to go, Fletcher found the net for his first goal in seven league outings, for a deserved 2-1 St George win.



CARL HALFORD (South Melbourne) and JOHN ANASTASIADIS (Heidelberg) do battle during Sunday's National League battle.

ST GEORGE: Gibson, Green, O'Connor, Moffitt, Lampropoulos, O'Shea, Pottier, Koczka, Fletcher, Ollerenshaw, Hagan.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken, Jennings, Viletstra, Rozic, Clinch, Slater, Savor, Arnold, Jones,

Rumora (Rezo 60), Lamond (Cerro 74).

Referee: R. Marshall. Crowd: 4950.

Bookings: Rumora, O'Connor, Lampropoulos.

ZINNI GRABS A LATE GOAL

BY JOHN MANGAN

IN THE dying moments of the game when everyone seemed happy to leave with a point, Andrew Zinni popped up with a goal to give Brunswick Juventus a 1-0 victory over Footscray JUST.

This game was not a great spectacle.

After the first 15 minutes both sides appeared to lose initiative.

This was typified when Brunswick defender John Yzendorn, under no pressure at all, back-passed to his keeper Pat Marrama.

Though Footscray was slightly on top the best chance of the first half fell to Juventus when a diving header from Sean Lane

forced a very good save by Zoran Nikitovic who was best on ground.

Brunswick had adopted a physical style and both Peter Lewis and Brian Brown earned yellow cards from referee Chris Bambridge.

Oscar Crino was not his usual self on the day but he set up JUST's first clear cut chance with a swinging free kick over the wall.

Marrama could only turn

the ball as far as Eddie Campbell whose shot hit the underside of the bar and was cleared.

On the hour Campbell was back in defence to clear a Scot Patterson header off the line.

The drama was saved for the end of the game.

Two minutes from time Yzendorn and Bill Lazopoulos clashed heads.

Lazopoulos was immediately taken to hospital

in a semi-conscious state.

Then in extra-time Fab Incantalupo robbed Crino of the ball at the left hand corner flag.

Zinni bolted in to head his cross past Nikitovic and snatched the points.

FOOTSCRAY: Nikitovic, James, Karic, Lazopoulos (van den Berg 88th), Radivojevic, Lujic, Curovic, Buriak, Campbell, Splink, Crino.

BRUNSWICK: Marrama, Lewis, Brown, Bell, Yzendorn, Cullen, Incantalupo, Lane, Patterson, Zinni, Grbac (Palatsides 73rd).

OLYMPIC, CROATIA CAN OFFER BETTER

BY GREG BLAKE

MELBOURNE Croatia, on the run of play, should have beaten Sydney Olympic at Olympic Park last Sunday.

Sydney Olympic almost stole two confidence building points but were foiled by a soul destroying lapse at the back in the closing seconds of play.

Melbourne Croatia spent near to \$100,000 in the close season and the hefty gamble might still pay off.

But new coach Peter Ollerton and the club's dwindling band of supporters must be cringing with embarrassment as the 'million dollar' team still cannot do what it is paid handsomely to do — score enough goals to win games.

Olympic is a potential sleeping giant. It has far too many players of genuine quality to placidly lay down and die near the foot of the NSL table.

It has the most successful coach in NSL history in Eddie Thomson and it boasts Chris Kalantzis, John Kosmina, Peter Raskopoulos, David Ratcliffe and Tony Dakos amongst its numbers.

But if Sunday's 1-1 draw was the best these two teams of apparent potential can produce then the West End NSL is indeed in a bad way.

"We weren't fit at the start of the season and it's taken this long to reach peak fitness," a downcast Kosmina said after the game.

Peter Ollerton spent seven long days ruing his side's missed chances that cost Croatia the points last week against Footscray and Sunday's effort is likely to leave him with more soul searching.

"At halftime I thought we should have been at least two goals up. We were still creating chances but just not finishing," Ollerton explained.

Indeed Melbourne Croatia did have the best of the opening half but two fine saves by Gary Meier, from Paul Lewis and Graham Heys, and a succession of corners was the

best the home side had to show for its endeavours.

The story was much the same in the quarter hour after the interval but the entry of Olympic sub Terry Patalis sparked a mini revival by the Sydneysiders.

Twelve minutes from full time a slip-up by Alan Scott gave Stuart Johnston possession and he speared the ball inside to the elusive Kalantzis who was able to knock a shot home unchallenged from seven metres.

The 1,000 or so disappointed Melbourne Croatia supporters had to wait until 13 seconds into

GARY McDOWALL bursts forward for South against the 'Bergers.



injury time for a chance to celebrate.

A long throw-in from the left was misguided into the path of Paul Lewis by

an Olympic defender and Lewis gratefully snapped up the chance to grab the dramatic last gasp equaliser.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje, Scott, McIntosh (Humble 81st), Hannah, Dunn, Davidson, Heys, Campbell (Milosevic 67th), Biskic, Lewis, Wallace. SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier,

Hooker, Dakos, Dragicevic, Ratcliffe, Spanoudakis, Estavillo (Patalis 59th), Raskopoulos, Johnston (Coady 86th), Kalantzis, Kosmina. Referee: Don Campbell. Crowd: 1,000.

THE OLD FIRM KEEP CROWD ENTERTAINED

BY LES SHORROCK

MELBOURNE'S "Old Firm" of Heidelberg and South Melbourne kept 9000 supporters roaring themselves hoarse last Sunday.

It was a rip-roaring, no holds barred encounter, and the final result was probably an equitable one.

Heidelberg, with a half gale behind it, dominated the first half, but had nothing to show for its efforts at halftime.

The nearest it had come to scoring was when Theo Selemdis hit the South crossbar during the hectic mid-half spell when the Bergers

threatened to run away with the game.

By comparison with the first half, the second started very low key but livened up when Souths took the lead.

Coach Brian Garvey had obviously instructed his players, now they had the wind behind them, to let fly at every opportunity.

Carl Halford went close, Garry McDowall headed just over the bar from a cor-

ner, but Stuart Stevenson finally broke the deadlock in the 72nd minute.

Stevenson picked up a loose ball well outside the penalty area and hit a volley that dipped wickedly over Jeff Olver's head and under the crossbar.

It was a sweet moment for Stevenson, who was discarded by Heidelberg two seasons ago. In a soccer sense has been born again at South.

However the South euphoria lasted a mere five minutes.

Berger coach John Margaritis took off Chris Ketsakidis for Mike Valentine, and the midfielder's very first touch brought the equaliser.

Valentine speared an inch perfect pass through the heart of the South defence right to the feet of Laurie McKinna and the ex-Kilmarnock striker happily

planted the ball well out of Peter Laumets' reach.

Whether it was a desperation move to take off a defender for a midfielder or just pure inspiration we'll never know, but it worked like a charm.

Newcomer Scott Fraser, from Green Gully, has slotted into the Berger defence so well that Margaritis has been able to release Theo Selemdis to play in the mid-

Having grabbed an equaliser, Heidelberg was more than happy to hang on for the draw, and in the gathering gloom, Olver's goal bore a charmed life, but it was a fair result just the same.

HEIDELBERG: Olver, Marley, Fraser, Hunter, Ketsakidis (Valentine 77th), Selemdis, Lucchesi, Kanesouvilis, McKinna, Tsolakis.

STH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, McDowall, Blair, Postecoglou, Crainie, Miranda, Wade, Halford, Egan, Stevenson.

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ALEX VESIC
reviews the
NSW State
Bank League

THE 'GONG KEEP UP CHALLENGE

WOLLONGONG
Wolves kept alive their challenge for League honours with an easy 3-1 win over Ku-Ring-Gai at the Showground last Sunday.

Randell Easthorpe was back at the top of the goalscoring charts with his two goals which sunk the visitors.

Ku-Ring-Gai came forward from the kick-off looking for an opening and was sadly exposed at the back as the locals swung into counter attack through Roberto Giraldi.

His pin-point cross found Randell Easthorpe, who made no mistake to beat Andrew Lacey with the clock showing only 40 seconds of the first half.

Ku-Ring-Gai came back strongly through Glen Jeffery in the 15th minute to even the scores and looked a good bet to give its much fancied hosts a run for their money.

With time running out in the first period Wollongong received a free kick outside the penalty area.

Jeff Ainsworth took the free blasting his shot at the wall and the rebound fell at the feet of Ainsworth who managed to find the roof of the net with a superb drive.

The second half saw both sides indulge in a midfield scramble for possession with little to show for their effort until the 60th minute when yet another free kick to the locals settled the issue. Mike Hollifield's free kick found Easthorpe diving forward to score his eighth goal of the season.

It is going to take an exceptional side to subdue the Wolves from here on.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Young, Hollifield, Dickson, Morlando, Beringer, Skeen, Cooakely, Ainsworth, Brodnik, Easthorpe, Giraldi.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey, Kevern, Goldsworthy, Campbell, Pepper, Berry, Quigley, Jeffery, Bass(Nile), Bennett, Sutherland(Williams).

ONLY ONE HORSE IS LEFT IN THE RACE

THE STATE BANK LEAGUE of NSW is fast becoming a one-horse race with Blacktown City Demons a furlong ahead of Canberra and Wollongong with Melita a further furlong back in fourth spot, following last week's matches.

The do-or-die battle for the Eagles at the Gabbie ended with the home side taking the points to keep its four lead.

Melita is now six points adrift and must start winning regularly if it is to offer serious challenge for the title. The good news for Melita is the return of Kenny Wilson, after a long lay off due to injury.

Canberra Griffins disposed of Rockdale to become the most serious threat to the Demons for the title.

Sixto Gonzales notched

two goals to stretch his run of successive games in which he has netted to four.

Wollongong Wolves had their own star goal poacher on show at the Wollongong Showground. Randell Easthorpe netted two to take his tally to eight and help his side to keep within striking distance of Blacktown.

The rest of the League will remain battling for places fifth to last with Manly Warringah on the slide and Inter Monaro showing definite signs of

improvement.

Warringah Freshwater and Wollongong Macedonia are due for an improved showing in front of goal after their recent matches.

Both could claim bad refereeing cost them points but both will agree that it was their failure in front of goal that has caused them more strife so far.

Newcastle is the side that most must applaud for the results so far. Its clear 3-0 win over Manly had tremendous merit. It was achieved with seven players under the age of 20!



Ku-Ring-Gai's David Kevern heads for goal watched by team-mate Glenn Jeffery.

BLACKTOWN PLUCK THE EAGLES

BLACKTOWN City Demons are set to turn the corner of the first round fixture list with a clear lead following its 2-0 win over Melita Eagles at the Gabbie.

Before the biggest crowd of the season (2,500) Melita Eagles ran out of ideas against this very strong Demons defence and, in the

end, succumbed to a goal in each half.

Despite some territorial advantage held by the Eagles at the start of the

match the locals hit the front as early as the 17th minute.

Paul Kay slipped a perfectly weighted pass to Brett Thornthwaite, who

beat two players to find some space before crossing for Grant Lee to slam a great shot past Pupovac from some 16 metres.

Melita came back and stormed Watson's goal. They came close to scoring on two occasions. Greg Brown turned Kurt Reynolds in the 26th but the ever alert Watson came off his line to dive at the feet of the Melita striker and save the day.

With the Demons clinging to its slender 1-0 lead and only four minutes of play remaining in the first half Watson turned saviour again with his superb reflex action save from a close range shot.

Melita's downfall came after its defence failed to clear in the 60th and Gary Byrne picked up a loose ball on the edge of the area.

He was quick to find Adam Sandy, who rifled his shot from some eight metres past Pupovac.

Despite being two goals down Melita continued to attack but failed to find an opening.

Ray Farrugia came on for Tony Cabassi and later in the match Greg Brown made way for Birol Sertabs, but all was in vain as this fast and uncompromising Demons defence stood tall.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Watson, Maler, Sterrey, Reynolds, Northam, Denyer, Kay, Byrne, Lee (Sandy 46th), Cotton, Thornthwaite (Ellem 76th).

MELITA EAGLES: Pupovac, Williamson, Meerbari, Reveley, Cabassi (Farrugia 62nd), Rodriguez, Vial, Brown (Sertabs 80th), Callanan, Farnsworth.

Aytec Genc changed it all with his shot in the 72nd minute. After some good work by Bradley and Webber, he was left on the 16 metre line to take a swing at the ball. Warren appeared to have the ball but it screwed through his hands and into the net!

WARRINGAH FRESHWATER: Warren, Gillan(Knight 50th), Radosavljevic, Drien, Dean, Fagan, Campbell, DeCeglie, Corrigan, Porter, Giannone.

URUGUAYAN PENRITH: DeMarchi, Canciani, O'Donnell, Gonzales, Bourke, Tomasich, Hunter(Webber 65th), Bradley, Thompson, Genc(Plriz 80th), McKie.



BRETT THORNTWHAITE



RAY FARRUGIA



ADAM SANDY

FRESHWATER BLAST REF

"WE WUZ ROBBED" came loud and clear from Warringah Freshwater after yet another defeat at Grahames Reserve, this time at the hands of Uruguayan Penrith.

"Nobody will complain about losing a game, but if it comes after some poor refereeing then we have to put in a protest," said a dejected Ljubo Gojkovic, coach of Freshwater.

He claimed that two clear penalties were denied his side by the referee, Alan Townsend. Claims also came from Uruguayan Penrith insisting that the referee had a very poor game with both teams at a loss to understand some of the rulings.

Uruguayan Penrith was on the board early when John McKie swung at the ball from some 30 metres. His fierce drive beat Keith Warren all ends up as it cleaned the cob-webs in the top right hand corner of the net.

The home side was not to be denied and played some attractive football at times to please this strong Uruguayan defence. Four minutes into the second half Robert DeCeglie made it 1-1.

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GONZALES AND REIS STRIKE

BY GRAHAME COOKE

CANBERRA Griffins striking partnership of Sixto Gonzales and Allan Reis shared the goals between them as their team subdued Rockdale 3-1 at Bruce Stadium last Sunday.

Gonzales' best asset is the ability to read the game and turn up in the right place at the right time and he proved this twice as the Griffins comfortably retained their unbeaten home record.

The first goal came in the 13th minute when Jason Dunn headed into the Rockdale penalty area.

There was an untidy scramble involving a couple of defenders together with Reis and Palacios all of which Gonzales kept well clear off.

Reis saw this and got to the ball then passed to Gonzales who scored.

And it was Reis again providing the bulk of the service 16 minutes later. Palacios sent him away down the right flank with a perfectly judged pass.

He drew what remained of the rugged Rockdale defence and crossed for Gonzales to head past Ian Barker.

This goal put him level

with Reis as the club's highest scorer but Alan changed all that with two minutes remaining when he won the ball from the hesitating Jeff Wilson and calmly shook off the charge from Barker and side footed it into the net just ahead of Michael Boogaard.

The Griffins had failed to ram home their advantage in the first half hour of the second half when instead they almost allowed the opposition back into the game.

Rockdale scored in the 56th minute when Tony Genovese caught the defence with a fast break then Reis failed with a penalty kick after Barker had tripped Palacios in the area.

CANBERRA: Giannasca, Bryant, Mazis(Nelson 52nd), Dunn, Suarez, P.Reis, Juna, Sermani, Palacios, A.Reis, Gonzales(Papadopoulos 69th).

ROCKDALE: Barker, Boogaard, J.Wilson, Pliovski, Miltovski, Torrevski, Nastoski, Beddoni, Genovese, D.Wilson, Dounis.

STATE LEAGUE DIV 1 GR 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blacktown City	11	9	1	1	31	6	19
Canberra Griffin	10	6	3	1	16	8	15
Wollongong City	11	7	1	3	24	17	15
Melita Eagles	11	5	3	3	20	14	13
Newcastle	11	5	1	5	20	19	11
Sutherland Shire	11	3	5	3	11	14	11
Rockdale Ilinden	11	4	2	5	16	13	10
Uruguayan Penrith	11	4	2	5	21	21	10
Ku-Ring-Gai	11	3	4	4	14	17	10
Canterbury M'ville	11	3	4	4	16	21	10
Manly Warringah	11	5	0	6	10	17	10
Inter Monaro	10	2	3	5	14	26	7
Warringah F/Water	11	3	0	8	11	20	6
Wollongong Mace	11	2	2	7	10	20	6

CANTERBURY 1 (M Sweeney o g) bt WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0.

INTER MONARO 1 (M Perinovic) drew with SUTHERLAND 1 (T Caban).

NEWCASTLE 3 (D Caisely 2, R Milosevic) bt MANLY 0.

BLACKTOWN 2 (G Lee, A Sandy) bt MELITA EAGLES 0.

PENRITH 2 (J McKie, A Genc) bt WARRINGAH 1 (R DeCeglie).

WOLLONGONG CITY 3 (R Easthorpe 2, J Ainsworth) bt KU-RING-GAI 1(G Jeffery).

CANBERRA 3 (S Gonzales 2, A Reis) bt ROCKDALE 1(T Genovese).

THREE HORSE RACE IN THE THIRD DIV

BY WES SAWINA
THE third division has settled down to a race in three.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — MAY 27, 1987 7

JOHN MANGAN'S
*overview of the
Victorian State
League matches*

GULLY SCORELESS ONE COLD INTRO

BOTH teams maintained their unbeaten records this season when the AIS travelled to Green Gully on Sunday to draw 0-0.

Gully is riding high in the Buffalo State League at the moment with six wins and five draws while the AIS has been sweeping all before it having lost no games and drawn only once - at Morwell - before this weekend.

A strong breeze favored the Institute in the first half and it took great saves on two occasions by Gully keeper Lou Denys to deny Alistair Edwards the goals that would put the visitors into the lead.

Before halftime Greg Mills was desperately unlucky when his free-kick hit the crossbar.

The second half however saw Gully take the initiative with Joe Sweeney coming close to scoring twice with headers and Tommy Cumming having a shot well saved by Institute keeper David Mower.

There was no shortage of action as AIS striker Paul Welch hit the upright in the 60th minute and seven minutes later Danny Zemunik hit the crossbar.

The game was a classic hard-fought battle played in excellent spirit though Colin Quigley and Jason Polak both earned cautions for minor misdemeanours.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Hogben, Grimaud, Carter, Cannell, McLelland (Spiteri 80th), O'Donnell, Quigley, T.Cumming, Sweeney, Zemunik (Ward 70th).

AIS: Mower, Healy, Clarkson, Mills, Edwards, Koch, Gibson, Polak, P.Foster, C.Foster, Welch.



STATE LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maribyrnong	12	8	3	1	25	13	19
Green Gully	11	6	5	0	17	9	17
St. Albans	11	6	3	2	18	11	15
Fawkner	11	6	3	2	17	10	15
Caulfield City	11	6	3	2	15	8	15
Box Hill	12	3	5	4	14	12	11
Oakleigh	11	4	2	5	19	19	10
Western Suburbs	12	4	2	6	16	19	10
Springvale City	11	2	5	4	13	15	9
Morwell Falcons	11	2	5	4	9	11	9
Thomastown	11	3	3	5	9	17	9
Frankston Pines	11	3	2	6	16	22	8
Croydon City	12	1	6	5	9	17	8
Northcote City	11	3	1	7	8	20	7
Broadmeadows	11	2	2	7	13	19	6

MARIBYRNONG NUDGE WAY TO LEAD

MARIBYRNONG Polonia opened up a two point lead at the top of the Buffalo State League last weekend as it took advantage of Green Gully playing the AIS.

Gully has a game in hand but has an inferior goal-difference.

Northcote continued its revival with a gutsy victory against Oakleigh while newcomer Stewart MacArthur shone in Box Hill's 3-1 win at Frankston Pines.

Pines decided last Thursday that no more players would be transferred and money will be made available to Danny McMinimee to purchase new players to keep the struggling team in the State League.

Though it is late in the season to be adding to his squad McMinimee desperately wants to add some depth to the Pines line-up taking some of the pressure off his younger players. Meanwhile Springvale

face a double blow with Ged Bannon returning to Scotland this week and the recent news that captain Keith Adams will be out for the rest of the season with a knee injury.



GED STENSON
(Fawkner)

KELIC SINKS MORWELL

TWO goals by Ivan Kelic set up a 2-1 victory for St. Albans Dinamo in their game against Morwell Falcons on Saturday.

Falcons, however, were desperately unlucky not to come out of the game with at least a point.

With Dinamo missing Rob Krajacic and Danny Ramljak at the back, Dave O'Connor's visiting Falcons pressed for a goal.

But Falcons have had a chronic goal-scoring problem this season and once again for all the skill they showed and all the experience they have, the Falcons' forwards could not slot the ball into the net.

As it was, Dinamo was the first to score, in the 68th minute, when Ivan Kelic rose to head home an Ivan Duzel corner deflected at the near post by Falcons' forward Anthony Cassar.

Falcons broke their three-and-a-half game goal-drought when a prankster in the crowd blew a whistle as Iain Storton received a pass from Effie Cassar on the

edge of the Dinamo area.

Everyone stopped and turned to the referee and Storton was the first to gather his wits and shoot past keeper Mato Grgic.

Ten minutes from the end John O'Callaghan intercepted a ball outside the area smashing a first-time volley that went only just wide.

Six minutes from time Kelic showed his goal touch again when a defensive slip allowed him to deftly chip keeper Romero Prezioso and wrap up the match for the home side.

ST ALBANS: Grgic, Collina, Wilson, Dragovic (Kelic 16th), Kuzman, Duzel, Batinovic (Bacak 1st), Collina, Morovic, Runje, Rastocic.

MORWELL: Prezioso, Bingham, Tutill, Clarke, Bruns, Sostak, E.Cassar, O'Callaghan, Webster, Storton, A.Cassar.



MAURO RAPONI of Thomastown

DELIGIANNIS' DEBUT

NEW signing from Heidelberg, Nick Deligiannis, capped a fine debut for Caulfield with a goal in his team's 5-1 win over Western Suburbs.

A devastating first half gave Jim Condilis's visiting team no chance to recover and salvage even a point from the game.

Suburbs dug their own grave in the 15th minute when, under little pressure, defender Dennis Macleod knocked the ball past his own keeper.

In the 22nd minute the home side won a penalty when the referee judged that Brendan Farmer had been overly vigorous in competing for a high ball in the penalty-area.

Phil Harris made no mistake with the spot-kick.

Then 10 minutes later John Bitsonis hit a blistering shot from outside the area which gave keeper Spiro Kardamitsis no chance.

Suburbs refused to submit and in the 57th minute former Vietnamese international Minh Tri Vo dived to head home a Darren Tuck cross at the far post.

Farmer was sent off in the 63rd minute after referee Mike Gaut disallowed a goal coming from a David Smallman free-kick.

Gaut was still trying to get the Caulfield wall 10 metres from the ball when Smallman took his quick kick so he ordered the kick to be retaken much to Suburbs' disappointment.

Then 16 minutes from time Deligiannis scored when he intercepted a header from Suburbs defender Con Stefanidis.

Pepe Abraam finished the job five minutes from the end with a shot from the edge of the area.

CAULFIELD: Madjer, Filipou, Michell, Koutos, Harris, Theoharous, Hamakiotis, Bitsonis, Griffin, Xynas, Deligiannis.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Kardamitsis, Macleod, Stefanidis (Kountouris 75th), Kyriazis (McCluskey 1st), Dimovski, Minh, Farmer, Smallman, Hamill, Tuck, Pierce.



TONY COSENTINO (Thomastown) is pursued by Green Gully's COLIN QUIGLEY

NORTHCOTE SHOW GRIT

ENTHUSIASM and running were the key to Northcote's 2-0 victory over Oakleigh at John Cain Reserve on Saturday.

With Bobby Toal out and Kenny Drakeford taken off after half an hour with an ankle injury coach Frank Munro was not fielding a full-strength side.

Nevertheless Northcote showed "a sort of grit which has characterised recent performances and it was this determination which was clearly lacking in the Oakleigh line-up.

In the 15th minute a corner from Drakeford was met by Chris Bekiaris who headed it past keeper Ioakamidis to put the home team into the lead.

Twenty minutes later, just after Drakeford had come off, Northcote made it 2-0 when Juan Toro, who has been in top form, took a free-kick which Kouremenos knocked in from right in front.

Hugo Espanon came on for Drakeford and showed potential as he adapted to the Australian style of play.

After the game Oakleigh boss Kris Kalifatidis lamented his team's lack of consistency.

"At the moment we are an 'occasion' club playing well against the top teams and then losing to the sides further down the table," he said.

Next week should see a revival as Oakleigh clash with top team Green Gully.

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos, Cutler, Patiniotis, Kouremenos, Constantinou, Toro, Drakeford (Espanon 30th), Tsangas, Small, Ramos, Bekiaris (Inj (Gymnopoulos 70th)).

OAKLEIGH: Ioakamidis, Laletas, Pahljina (Gourios 55th), Langsbury, J.Cummings, S.Gusic, J.Gusic, Ross, Politis, Dick, Irvine (Andriotis 60th).

VSF MATCHES
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SUNDAY MAY 31TH 1987

Clairinda v Footscray, Brunswick U.J. v bye, Sunshine G.X. v Melbourne Croatia, Preston v Oakleigh, South Melbourne v Caulfield City, Nunawading City v Heidelberg United, Waverley City v Brighton.

STATE LEAGUE RD 13
SATURDAY MAY 30TH 1987
Northcote City v Croydon City, Oakleigh v Green Gully, Morwell Falcons v Fawkner.

SUNDAY MAY 31ST 1987
Springvale City v Broadmeadows, Western Suburbs v AIS, Thomastown v St Albans, Maribyrnong v Frankston Pines, Box Hill v Caulfield City.

VIC LEAGUE - RD 10
DIV 1 - SAT MAY 30TH 1987
Sunbury United v SM Mordialloc, Bulleen v Albion Rovers, North Dandenong v Richmond, Knox City v Nunawading City, Altona Gate v Ringwood City, Melbourne v Essendon City.

SUNDAY MAY 31TH 1987
Werribee v Doncaster Rovers.

DIV 2 - SAT MAY 30TH 1987
Ringwood United v Prahran City, Sandringham v Clifton Hill, Hamlyn Rangers v North Geelong, Dandenong City v Mornington, Waverley City v Doveton, Altona City v Mooroolbark, Westgate v Eltham.

DIV 3 - SAT MAY 30TH 1987
West Brunswick v Yarraville, Yallourn v Port Melbourne, Fentree Gully v Springvale United, Ball Park v Rosanna, Kellor v Corio-Geelong United, Moreland P.R. v Geelong, Moorabbin City v Clarinda.

DIV 4 - SAT MAY 23rd 1987
Pascoe Vale v Williamstown, Seaford v Diamond Valley Utd, East Melbourne v Prahran, Karingal United v Lalor United, Boronia v Langwarrin, Coburg v Keysborough, Hawthorn v Holland Park.

FAWKNER DEFENSIVE LAPSES COSTLY

FAWKNER paid the price for its inexperience on Sunday going down 2-1 to league-leaders Polonia.

Though Fawkner had the better of the game defensive lapses gave the visitors the chance to open up a two goal lead which they held on to in spite of a late revival by the home side.

After the game though Fawkner coach Frank McAleer stood by his team and reaffirmed his commitment to youth.

"I'll put my job on the line for young players. The average age of our team is

around 21 so we've got a lot to learn, but we can only improve," he said.

Though Dougie Brown and Ian Tuffield came close to scoring in the opening spell for Fawkner it was Polonia that netted the first goal.

In the 20th minute Greg Warszawski centred from the left and the ball fell to Kees Storm who, with plenty of room, back-heeled to Jan Wycislik who scored.

Then 20 minutes into the second half an error by Fawkner defender Robert Ferla let Greg Warszawski run clear on the right and with only the goalkeeper to beat picked his spot and shot truly.

Undaunted Fawkner continued to push forward and its persistence was rewarded seven minutes from time when Bruno Cozzella crossed from the left and Brown volleyed from

the edge of the area to narrow the deficit.

Cozzella almost levelled the scores in the last minute but his shot from close range flew over the bar.

FAWKNER: Wilson, Walsh, Bordignon (Sabbatino 60th), Schipano, Ferla, Veracchia (Palinkas 75th), Tuffield, Stenson, Chiavelli, D.Brown, Cozzella.

POLONIA: Kiss, Flaveli, Kotzamichalis, Bennett, Smolarek, Czapnik (Liparski 70th), Nelson, Baran, Wycislik (Lakic 80th), Warszawski, Storm.



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BIG 'OLLIE' DOESN'T SCARE EASILY

BY GREG BLAKE

BIG Peter Ollerton rarely shirked a challenge as a player and he's always maintained his hard-hitting style as a coach.

In the next few months he may have to summon all his courage and commitment as he takes on one of his most challenging roles as coach of Melbourne Croatia.

The role of first team boss at Croatia hasn't been a position anyone would relish in recent times.

At last count Melbourne Croatia had managed to hire and fire 11 coaches since 1981, but that record doesn't scare 'Ollie'.

The big, blond former Socceroo has carried his playing traits into his coaching — outspoken, tough and prepared to let his record stand as testimony to his success or failure.

But Melbourne Croatia is still a club in crisis and Ollerton now faces as demanding a period as any in his career — including the World Cup Finals action he saw as a player in West Germany in 1974.

Expectations are high and the fans are anxious.

For many supporters visions of 1986 are still fresh of their beloved Melbourne Croatia taking all before it in the pre-season before failing dismally in the League.

The 1987 season has started in the same fashion — the Buffalo Cup and Ansett Challenge Shield tucked safely back in the trophy cupboard but in the league it has been a little better than average start.

Croatia coach of just four months Terry Hennessey has already bitten the dust with an unfortunate illness.

Now Ollerton, Hennessey's assistant until two weeks back, takes over at the helm of a squad upon which near enough to \$100,000 was spent in the closed season.

"I can't judge what happened here last year because I wasn't at the club," Ollerton told ASW.

"This year we won the Buffalo Cup and Challenge Shield but the pre-season competitions are just a drop in the ocean.

"The clubs involved are changing players, playing people out of position, there are injuries and really pre-season form is not a major factor.

"Somebody has to win these competitions and it just so happens that in 1986 and this year it was us."

"I really think the situation at Croatia is being blown up at this stage because we're still the leading side in Melbourne and only three points from the top of the table.

"We're not doing too badly. Hopefully from now we'll be able to change around what happened last season."

Assisting

Ollerton started 1987 as assistant to Hennessey after rejecting an offer from Heidelberg



IAN WALLACE

to take over the first team there when Roy McLaren resigned.

Ollerton declined the Heidelberg offer and decided to work with Hennessey and his potentially exciting new-look Croatia and a matter of months later he has found himself in charge.

"I was thrilled when I was

offered the job but at the same time I was supporting Terry", Ollerton explained.

"I'd joined thinking that one day down the line, if I'd done my job well, I might get a chance as coach here.

"I didn't think the chance would come as quickly as it has done but I'm looking forward to the opportunity and I hope it will be successful."

Ollerton described Hennessey's departure this way.

"Two or three weeks ago Terry suffered illness problems and that started it all," he said.

"He was unable to attend training, he found it difficult coping with his job, Soccer and the illness, and in the end the pressures of trying to win games all built on top of him.

"He's not the type of bloke to want to resign and the board and players supported him but in the end he just decided to walk away.

"Before the Heidelberg game he decided to give it another bash and came back but at a committee meeting the following Thursday night a few of the board members had changed their minds and were against him continuing in the job.

"They thought that even if he did come back he mightn't be able to hold the job for the remainder of the season. After that they

offered the job to me."

Ollerton, a 55 times capped Socceroo, must be successful at Melbourne Croatia simply to survive as coach.

But pressure is something 'Ollie' knows all about as he has proved many times in a distinguished career that saw him serve at Ringwood, Wilhemina, APIA, South Melbourne, Marconi, Footscray and Preston.

The scorer of 20 Socceroo goals isn't about to change his style now. "I'm not worried about the pressure because if I did worry I wouldn't have survived this long", the 6ft. 1 inch giant says.

"And at the moment I've got the full backing of the board.

"They gave me their 100 percent support after things went wrong with Terry and I think I'll be able to justify that.

"We are certainly not going to struggle against relegation as we did last year, we've got to consolidate and look to make around fourth or fifth spot at this stage.

"I've been at the club since the start of the season so I know the players pretty well and I respect them and I think they respect me and now we've got to get on to the job at hand."

Sound Record

Ollerton's coaching pedigree since taking over the reigns at Preston when Brian Edgeley resigned midway through the 1981 NSL season is first class.

He took Preston to within an ace of the NSL title in 1983 but his exciting young charges floundered over the final weeks of the season to finish third.



Terry Hennessey (left) and Peter Ollerton (right).

Ollie then moved to Victorian State Leaguers Croydon City and, with an outfit dubbed 'Dads Army' by the press, went on to snare two State League titles in succession.

Now he finds himself in charge of a squad of superior quality to both of those previous clubs and with a chance to finally light the frustrated Melbourne Croatia fans.

"I'd agree in some ways that this is a quality squad" he told me, "But we certainly do not have a great deal of depth.

"We've lost Jim MacLean and with Willie Herd out for three or four weeks and Mark Talejic out for the rest of the season we're down to about 12 or 13 fit players.

"We've a few quality players in the squad but there is not enough depth as I would have liked and we'll be in trouble if we get a bad run of injuries or suspensions.

"We won't be going into the transfer market though, the club has already spent a few bob this year and we will not be spending any more unless a player comes up with we believe could really

help us a great deal.

"If we get Herd and a couple of others back we will look at them and a couple of youngsters — it's too late to start indulging in the transfer market."

Ollerton believes the club's expensive close season imports will pull Melbourne Croatia into good shape before season's end.

"Ian Wallace will get better and better once he gets used to the way the game is played here," Ollerton stated.

"Robbie Dunn is a very honest player who gives everything to the club and he has established himself now.

"Alan Davidson, on the comeback trail, has forced himself back into the Australian side and I hope he can continue on from there.

"Alan Scott is a player of the future, an attacking full-back with a good left foot who'll get better as time goes on."

If just a little of Peter Ollerton's grit rubs off on his players as the season progresses Melbourne Croatia might still give the high-flying Sydney teams a run for their money in 1987.

COMEDY OF ERRORS AT CROYDON

A COMEDY of errors and a stirring fightback led to a 2-2 draw when Springvale travelled to Croydon on Sunday.

Both sides have been making hard work of it this season though the pressure of expectation has always been so much greater on Croydon, having won the championship for the last two years running.

The mistakes began in the seventh minute when Vales defender Williams under no pressure knocked a back-pass wide of his keeper Dennis Boland to put Croydon one goal up.

Croydon took the initiative

and two minutes before halftime a Jimmy Tansey free-kick sailed over the heads of the visitors' defence to Graham French who was brought down by Michael Bissinger as he controlled the ball.

French added to his goal tally from the spot sending Boland the wrong way.

Vales coach Bobby McLachlan gave his team a verbal thrashing at halftime which drew almost instant results when Ged Bannon

sprinted over 20 yards to get to a ball which ran loose when Croydon keeper Keith Waterman slipped and fell as he attempted a big clearance.

Bannon slid the ball into the unguarded net and from there cup-tie action followed as both teams suffered a series of close calls.

Then 12 minutes from time a long ball from Martin Vogel dropped between

Waterman and veteran defender Jimmy O'Reilly. Both players hesitated and Greg House took advantage of the confusion to dart in and stab the ball past the keeper to level the scores.

CROYDON: Waterman, M. Brown, O'Reilly, Brack, Tansey, Nelson, Brogan, Redmond, Beech, French, Cole.

SPRINGVALE: Boland, Vogel, Hobson, Bissinger, Williams, Bannon, Swinscoe, Kral, Stewart, Vasic, House.

ILL WIND AT DOUGLAS

A GUTSY Broadmeadows northerly wind and two sendings off marred Broadmeadows' 1-1 draw with Thomastown on Sunday.

The openness of the Laura Douglas Reserve made conditions difficult for both teams but Broadmeadows was the first to adapt, scoring in the 25th minute from a move which began with goalkeeper Dennis Pace.

His kick-out carried a great distance and midfielder Joe Vizzini dummied the ball as it bounced.

It ran on to Terry Nolan on the left wing who flicked it across to Peter Kadlecik on the opposite side who volleyed into the net.

Thomastown went out looking for the equaliser and found it five minutes before halftime.

John Mihalidis, who had a great game, met a ball which had come from a long throw

by Nino diMartino and had been flicked on by Kevin Carfora. Mihalidis's diving header gave keeper Pace no chance.

Broadmeadows' Peter Donaldson and Stuart Blair both got themselves sent off in the last ten minutes by referee Sam Zoumas when they abused other players but Zoumas thought that they were abusing him.

Zoumas also awarded yellow cards to Donaldson, Nolan, Kadlecik and John Higham.

BROADMEADOWS: Pace, Smart, Clantar, Donaldson sent off 83rd, Higham, S. Blair sent off 88th, Vizzini, Nolan, Gregorczyk, Kadlecik, Edmondson.

THOMASTOWN: Raponi, McMillan, Higgins, Arcoraci, Cosentino, di Martino (Athersych 60th), Cristaldo, Mihalidis, Coyle, Carfora, McGuinness.

MACARTHUR GENERAL

BOX HILL put up an impressive performance to beat Frankston Pines 3-1 at Monterey Park on Sunday.

Scottish import Stewart MacArthur who only touched down in the country eight days earlier showed no signs of jet-lag putting in a convincing effort.

Pines, boosted by a 1-0 win at Western Suburbs last weekend, found it difficult to knuckle down to the task at hand and never really looked like winning the game.

Nevertheless, it wasn't until just after halftime that George Murray's side took the lead when Damian Mori worked the ball on the right setting up a shot for Barry Brimmer.

Then 25 minutes later MacArthur slammed a George Campbell corner into the back of the net for a

2-0 lead.

Mori scored the third goal five minutes from time when substitute Thomas got clear on the left wing and squared it into the box.

Pines got a consolation goal in the last minute when Box Hill keeper John McKinlay made a great save from Graham Smith but could not hold the ball.

It bounced out to Ian McGinnigle who made no mistake.

FRANKSTON: Radov, Watson, Bozic, Parks, Miller, Buchanan, Thurlow, Ferris, Richardson (McDonagh 60th), Smith, McGinnigle.

BOX HILL: McKinlay, McMorrow, Hennessey, Hird, Roodhouse, MacArthur, Taylor (Mori ht), Davidson, Burton, Campbell (Thomas 75th), Brimmer.

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COACHES HAVE TO RIDE ON THE 'MAGIC ROUNDABOUT'

IT was difficult to get a horse on the 'Magic Roundabout' as a child, and once astride it, you fell off quite frequently.

With experience, however, you learnt to stand at the side of the 'Magic Roundabout', and sooner or later a riderless horse would come along.

A recent article in a national newspaper concerning an ASF move led by vice president Charlie Perkins, to halt the coaching merry-go-round, reminded me of the famous carousel in the children's TV programme 'Magic Roundabout'.

Statistics in the article showed that 14 clubs had made 147 coaching appointments in the National League. This is quite staggering and provides more evidence of the instability that exists in the coaching profession.

I suppose the obvious reason for the changes is the clubs' eagerness for a successful formula.

If one strips away the titles

BY TIM WHITE
Victorian State
Director of
Coaching

and surroundings of all the above teams, the coach in all cases faces very similar problems.

Clearly, the higher up the scale the greater becomes his responsibility and the more people who will be affected by his decisions. Yet in reducing his role to the simplest terms the task of the coach, at whatever level he participates, is to produce a successful team.

If success is only measured by winning the championship, then the majority of those 14 clubs would have been disappointed and the scramble continued to sustain a horse on the 'Magic Roundabout'.

Perhaps if clubs considered more carefully the world 'purpose' when selecting the coach, then perhaps stability will become more

evident which will help the coach, and in the long term the clubs.

To steer the teams in the right direction it is necessary to have a purpose from which will emerge a number of factors concerning the club and or the team. A number of factors may be long term, but short term objectives can be set to help achieve the purpose.

In practical terms the coach must be given time to blend his players into a unit suitable to their individual and collective talents.

He must be given time to develop young players which unfortunately does not always go hand in hand with winning championships.

Day's End

In the end the quality of our players and our game stands or falls on the standard of its teacher and coaches.

They shape the future and they will only succeed if they are men who believe in the game and are not merely mercenaries.

They must have knowledge and the expertise to pass it on and they must have time and facilities.

There are people around who believe that coaching has ruined our game.

Bad coaching hasn't helped but coaches like all skilled personnel, do not become a finished product overnight.

Coaches and players need to learn their trade in the same way that accountants and surveyors or carpenters and electricians have to learn theirs.

It is apparent that some coaches are splashing out on the transfer market in an attempt to buy early success. Others cannot buy because the club cannot produce the dollars.

In both cases the end result could well depend on the ability of the coach to get down to the nitty gritty of the game on training nights.

His ability to blend their defensive qualities with their attacking flair and his ability to recognise individual talents in his players and to allow them freedom to express our talents are paramount.

Spectators and administrators will always disagree concerning team selection, but coaches should remember that the team the spectator selects never plays, therefore never loses.

However on the other hand it never wins either.

So in the emotional trauma which team selection seems to stir up, coaches should never lose sight of basic truths and have confidence in their own ability to identify and solve problems.

▷ From Page 1

in which the foundation laid in recent years will be built upon in amazing fashion.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will play a tremendous part in backing up the huge and increasing numbers of players who are enjoying the indoor code.

Next week will see the commencement of a weekly page, featuring all the leading stories on the game.

And ASW has an additional treat for readers, planned ready for the National Indoor Soccer League's mid-August kick-off.

The NISL has taken on a huge and expensive task of spreading its wings to accommodate leading clubs from Auckland and Bundaberg to Perth.

SBS-TV will be to the fore in televising both the Pacific Cup and the NISL.

All those interested in Indoor Soccer should be sure to obtain their informative AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY from next Wednesday's issue.

Next week we will be publishing the Advance Purchase Ticket form for the Pacific Cup, which will be staged at the sparkling new Preston Centre in Melbourne.

CELTIC IN SYDNEY?

SYDNEY Olympic is hoping to finalise a match with Glasgow Celtic.

The game would be played at either Belmore Sports Ground or Parramatta Stadium on Friday June 5.

Celtic would also play Adelaide City in Adelaide and Western Australia in Perth.

PAOK SALONIKA TO TOUR

PAOK, currently second in the Greek First Division, are expected to tour Australia in early June.

Heidelberg United is the sponsoring club, and it is anticipated that two matches will be played in Melbourne and one each in Sydney and Adelaide.

The contracts are being finalised and Heidelberg are aiming to bring the games as far forward in June as is possible.

PAOK's big attraction is that the club have such a large number of supporters in Australia.

— CON NIKOLOPOULOS

COACH AVAILABLE

I wish to apply for position of manager/coach with one of the Australian Soccer

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PANAGOPOULOS BROS.

NATIONAL & STATE

AS stated in my call I am extremely disappointed in the 'pointed' comment on our non participation in the National Soccer League.

It completely fails to take into account that our exclusion was not of our doing.

The fact that we are prepared to provide football for our players on the international scene should be applauded rather than have it used in a negative manner.

Queensland players competing against national and representative teams from other countries is a positive move and should be recognised and reported as such.

I might add, that to suggest the ultimate is to play weekly in the National Soccer League, could provide some interesting comments from players when the alternative is to play locally, supplemented with the opportunity to travel and play national or representative teams from other countries and within Australia.

Alan J. Vessey,
Secretary
Queensland Soccer
Federation
Mayne 4006

[Our comment did congratulate the QSF for its recent international activity. It is also appropriate to point out that the Queensland players who have gone interstate for better quality football recognise the difference. — Ed]

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation secretary Alan Vessey made a quick reply to last week's comment that Queensland did well in the Auckland FA Centenary Tournament but wasn't in the Australian National Soccer League. "What sort of National League is it without a team from the third biggest state in the Commonwealth?" he asked.

RIOTS at matches certainly don't do much for the image of Soccer football in Australia. The goings on at Schintler Reserve were seen in detail on New Zealand television soon after the event.

THE Queensland Soccer Federation has been inundated with request for tickets following the announcement that England and Manchester United captain Bryan Robson will play for the Maroons in the interstate match against NSW on Sunday, June 14. On the strength of the early interest, there could be a record crowd at Perry Park.

Ossie Latif is the latest target for Adelaide Hellas who hope to do a swap deal involving midfielder Chris Manou.

The only problem is that Latif has been sold on loan to a Victorian State league team.

As we went to press Footscray and Hellas were haggling over the \$12,000 Hellas wants for Manou, but with a string of injuries Footscray is keen to get the giant SA star.

ADELAIDE City will face a make or break game this weekend after having a bye last Sunday.

The champions have to visit Sydney Croatia after two goalless draws and a defeat at South Melbourne.

Coach Zoran Matic has been working at every training session on his players' attitude.

"Only four performed in the last match. We have lost our competitive edge, and we must get it back," he said.

"The fact that we did not buy any big names is no excuse. We can still play champion Soccer, but that fact appears to have vanished from the minds of too many of our players."

WHILE everyone is assuring Adelaide City's Charlie Villani that he will be in the final Socceroo squad he won't believe it until he's on the plane to Korea.

Selected in previous years he was injured then one tour was cancelled, and after that he fell out of favor.

Now apparently he is one of coach Frank Arok's secret weapons for the Olympic and World Cup campaigns.

IN a recent Mike Johnson article, STEVE MAXWELL was categorised as an Englishman, no doubt because of his style of play. However, to put the record straight, Steve confirms that he is a born and bred Aussie — a "Vegemite" if you like.

WE had our doubts whether CRAIG JOHNSTON would ever wear a Green-and-Gold shirt. Then came the announcement that the Lake Macquarie boy was called up by Bobby Robson on stand-by for England. Some critics have poured a bucket on him for spurning his natural origins, but we wonder what some of his critics would have done as an Australian who became an English professional with a world-rated club. Craig's view obviously wasn't that of former Australian great Joe Marston, but 'Josa' wasn't in England to stay for good.



REPORTS are constantly being received that newsagents have insufficient copies of ASW to satisfy demand. If this is the case, ask your newsagent to contact his distributor to increase the order.

JEFF FAULKNER

Sunshine George Cross

BY GREG BLAKE

NAME: Jeffrey Charles Faulkner
BIRTHPLACE and DATE: Bedford, England/12.1.56
HEIGHT and WEIGHT: 1.7 metres/65 kilos
MARRIED: Yes, to Heather.
HOME: Werribee, Victoria.
CAR: Toyota Corona.
NICKNAME: Fawley
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Kettering Town, Preston and Melbourne Croatia.
OCCUPATION: Credit manager at Natwest.
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Diego Maradona.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf.
FAVOURITE GROUND: Olympic Park.
HOLIDAY RESORT: Queensland.
MUSIC: Anything at all.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Midfield.
ACTOR/ESS: Dustin Hoffman.
MOVIE: One Few Over the Cuckoo's Nest.
TV SHOW: Fawley Towers, Yes Minister and any sports programs.
DISH: Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding.
DRINK: A nice cold beer.
LIKES: My team winning — if things aren't going well on the park you have a rotten week.
DISLIKES: Losing.
INTERNATIONAL GAMES: England boys clubs.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Always the last one.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Lately it's been the last game.
WORST INJURY: Never really had any.
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: It's hard to pick between John Markovski and Paul Trimboli.
HARDEST OPPONENT: Paul Wade of South Melbourne.
FAVOURITE ALL TIME PLAYERS: George Best and Maradona.
BOOT TYPE: Adidas.
BEST WORLD XI: The Liverpool teams of the past decade.
AMBITIONS FOR 87: To survive in the league — if we end up in the top half we'll have done well and if we made the top five it would be brilliant.
LONG TERM AMBITIONS: I have no inclination to coach so just to play for as long as possible.



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FOR THOSE WHO
TAKE THEIR SPORT
SERIOUSLY





Former Socceroo captain **JOHNNY WARREN** looks at the situation with the national team and talks about our youngsters.

THANKFULLY the Winfield Socceroos are back in action with their forthcoming participation in Asia's premier and most prestigious President's Cup in South Korea from June 7-21.

I say thankfully, as I support and love our clubs as much as true Soccer fans do.

But there is only one way to the discerning hearts of corporate business and media, youngsters and the sporting public at large and that is through our various Socceroo or Australian, teams.

The Australian sporting public at large will generally neglect our world game.

At least they take a partial interest when the various national teams are in action and a far greater interest once the Socceroo teams start getting results in the international arenas of the world.

With this in mind it is difficult to understand the recent criticism of the break in the National League season so that the Socceroos can travel to South Korea.

If this was a spur of the moment decision you could perhaps understand the outcry.

But it was decided upon before a ball was kicked in 1987 and it was decided upon with the blessing of those clubs and officials who now cry poor about the break.

Great Build-Up

I can't recall a Socceroo team able to enjoy such a splendid preparation as this President's Cup affords Frank Arok's team.

It is an ideal preparation in the city which will stage the 1988 Olympic Games.

SOCCEROOS TASTE OLYMPIC CAULDRON

CONTINUED FROM BOTTOM COL 1

It is also perfect in that the Cup is played under tournament conditions much the same as World Cup and Olympic Games qualification matches where importantly it is vital not just to win the battles (the individual games) but the war itself (the tournament).

I can't recall a Socceroo team being able to play such a high variety of teams in the space of two weeks — perhaps that should read three weeks if the Socceroos are to make it to the semi finals.

Finally, and most importantly for Australian Soccer, is the fact that all this will not cost the ASF any real money.

Groupings for the President's Cup are:

Group A: Korea A, Hungary, United States, Egypt,

Thailand, Chile.

Group B: Socceroos, Korea B, Kuwait, Morocco, VVV FC (Holland), Deportivo Espanol (Argentina).

The top two in each group will, after the round robin games, qualify for the semis.

The Socceroo matches which will be televised live to Australia on SBS are set down for:

• Tuesday June 9 v Morocco — from 1.15pm (afternoon)
• Thursday June 11 v Deportivo Espanol from 1.15pm (afternoon)

• Saturday June 13 v Kuwait evening telecast
• Monday June 15 v Korea B evening telecast

• Wednesday June 17 v VVV FC from 1.15pm (afternoon)

• The semi finals are set down for Friday June 19 with the final on Sunday June 21.



THE Socceroos celebrate a goal against New Zealand.

RATINGS WERE ALL WRONG

LIKE most I am all for the development of youth in this country and like all I take great delight in their relative success in international competition.

But the use of statistics to say our under 19's are rated 13th and our under 16's whatever in the world ratings is totally misleading.

Firstly, it is fair to say the developing Soccer nations, like Australia, take more interest in promoting and developing their youth teams.

The World Youth tournaments are of vital importance to them.

Like it or not they are not as vitally important to the

more established nations.

But the main objection to those who trundle out these misleading facts is how these world ratings are arrived at.

And they are on the final positions in the various World Championships. Therefore the more you appear in the finals, the better the chance to rate higher.

In the 1974 World Cup in West Germany, Australia were rated 13th. Now even Socceroo fanatics would not

agree that we were the 13th best nation in the world at that time.

At youth level it is far easier for our team to regularly qualify for the finals than it is for our senior Socceroo team.

The under 16's don't, for example, even have to beat Israel to qualify for the finals, our under 19's, too, don't have to meet a European opponent or South American opponent on the way to the finals as our

senior national team does.

The mere presence in the final therefore gives the youngster a chance to get a higher "world" rating.

A familiar name will be on the bench for Portugal's Porto FC when they take on Bayern Munich in this week's European Cup Final. The final, as usual, will be covered by Soccer's only electronic media friends SBS (live at 4am, replay 9.30pm).

That name is Artur Jorge, coach of the Portuguese club which was previously handled by our old friend Dr Joe Venglos.

Portuguese friends tell me Porto's Artur Jorge is no relation to ASF President Sir Arthur.

Warren Sidelines

One hopes Zarko recovers in time to travel with the Winfield Socceroos.

The Sydney Croatia playmaker has been plagued with a recurring knee injury for most of this season and at the time of writing it appears unlikely Zarko will be on the plane next week.

According to my Mum, who has been following the game in this country on a weekly basis for the past 60 years and knows more about the game than most of the people who run it, Odzakov is the most skilled and entertaining player in the country.

Few will argue with that in a day when our game needs all the entertainment value it can get.

Whether Zarko makes it for the Socceroos tour or not, is, in the long term insignificant.

I think we'd all like to see him miss the tip if it meant a total and injury free recovery.

I can say this about the Odzakov injury.

And that is that he is in good hands with Dr Dick Tooth, the leading sports surgeon and former great Rugby Union international.

Dr Tooth performed the first ever cruciate ligament operation in this country back in 1971.

The patient recovered under his guidance to be, till this day, one of the few to come back from the dreaded injury.

Thanks to Dr Tooth, that player happened to be me.

Players, Coaches Vote

Having campaigned for years over the Player-of-the-Year issue I thoroughly agree with the sentiments on this contentious issue expressed by Rale Rasic in this paper last week.

The Player-of-the-Year and Coach-of-the-Year Annual Awards need dramatically revising.

And the answer is simple.

Players vote for the player-of-the-year and coaches for the Coach-of-the-Year.

There is no better judge than players of a fellow player and the same with the coaches.

All NSL players vote, but not for any of their own club players.

I have campaigned in vain for years on this matter.

In fact several years ago I put the proposal to the NSL executive that I would organise it for them, sponsor it (provided the Player or Coach of the Year Award was named after the late Uncle Joe Vlasits) and help promote it, if necessary.

I am still waiting on a definite reply.



RALE RASIC on the move.

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MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME

BAYERN-MUNICH EUROPEAN CUP FAVOURITES

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

BAYERN MUNICH are hot favourites to take out their fourth European Cup Final tomorrow morning when they meet Porto F.C. from Portugal in Vienna.

SBS-TV once again will televise the match live from Vienna's magnificent arena, the Prater Stadium, which is even older than England's famous Wembley.

This European Cup Final promises to be outstanding unlike last year's stale finale between Steaua Bucharest and Barcelona which fizzled out into penalties that saw the Cup go to Steaua Bucharest.

Both Bayern and Porto are teams that like to throw men forward.

Bayern Munich is coached by the West German Udo Lattek who will be leaving the club after this match.

Porto is coached by Arthur Jorge (no relation to Clarence Street).

Bayern Munich

Bayern have won the European Cup Final three times in the successive years of 1974, 1975 and 1976 when they had in their side mega-stars of the calibre of Franz Beckenbauer, Sepp Maier and Paul Breitner.

In 1982, Bayern again reached the final but ble-

mished their immaculate record when they went down to England's currently relegated side Aston Villa.

Bayern's big stars for this final are Michael Rummenigge (Karl-Heinz's young brother), and Lothar Matthaeus, rated West Germany's best player this year.

Matthaeus was the man that tried to mark Maradona out of the match in the World Cup Finals last year.

SBS's Soccer presenter Les Murray told ASW last night: "Australian viewers will see in Bayern's side Roland Wohlfarth who was in Australia in 1981 with West Germany's World Youth team that won the Championship here."

"Roland also scored the goal that put Australia out of the quarter-finals in Canberra."

Porto F.C.

Porto is the first side from Portugal to qualify for the European Cup Final since the glorious Benfica team in 1968.

Benfica lost that final to Manchester United 4-1 before a crowd of 100,000 at Wembley Stadium.

United kept the European Cup in Britain after Celtic the previous year was

the first British club to win the cup, defeating A.C. Milan.

Porto F.C. in years gone by was coached by Tommy Docherty, and more recently by Australia's former coach, the highly respected, most humble, Dr Joe Venglos.

The man to watch in Porto's team is striker Aulo Futre, said to be the closest thing to Maradona. Glimpses of this player's individual brilliance were seen in last year's World Cup Finals when he came on as a substitute for his country.

Porto has three Brazilian players which alone promises a great degree of unpredictability.

Their goalkeeper is Poland's 1982 and 1986 World Cup custodian Mlynarczyk.

CUP WINNERS SINCE 1974

1974 Bayern Munich.
1975 Bayern Munich.
1976 Bayern Munich.
1977 Liverpool.
1978 Liverpool.
1979 Nottingham F.
1980 Nottingham F.
1981 Liverpool.
1982 Aston Villa.
1983 Hamburg.
1984 Liverpool.
1985 Juventus.
1986 Steaua Bucharest.
1987???

Porto go into this final as definite underdogs against their more illustrious German opponents.

SBS-TV's exclusive coverage commences at 4am in all states except Western Australia who will take the match live at 2am and South Australia live at 3.30am.

SBS will screen a full replay the same evening at 9.30pm.

In the studio with Les Murray will be special guests Australian Youth Coach Les Schienflug and former World Cup captain Johnny Warren.

COADY BACK AT OLYMPIC

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MIKE COADY, Sydney Olympic's English defender, will be rushed back into Olympic's side for next Sunday's home clash against visiting Footscray.

Coady, recently returned from England, came on last Sunday for the last five minutes against Melbourne Croatia when midfielder Stuart Johnston injured his hip.

Eddie Thomson, Olympic's coach, besides Johnston, has midfielder Vicente Estavillo in doubt for the Footscray match.

Estavillo suffered a bad knock on his knee.

"I will be bringing in

Coady to partner David Ratcliffe at central defence and moving Robbie Hooker back out to one of the full-back positions," Thomson said last night.

"Footscray had a great season last year and I refuse to accept that this team has gone bad just overnight," Thomson commented.

Sydney Olympic's attacking midfielder, Abas Saad, who missed last Sunday's match, also is expected

back for the Footscray clash at the St George Stadium.

Thomson is well aware of Footscray's potential dangers, especially now that Oscar Crino is in the side to assist Zdravko Lujic and Warren Spinks, all potential match-winners.

Sydney Olympic last Sunday drew with Melbourne Croatia whilst Footscray lost their encounter with Brunswick Juventus 1-0 in the last minute of the match.

BIZARRE STH MELBOURNE

BY JOHN MANGAN

DEVASTATING counter-attacks and the sharp skills of hat-trick hero Charlie Egan swept South Melbourne Hellas to a 4-1 victory over Marconi in last Wednesday's Beach Fashions Cup semi-final at Olympic Park.

It was a bizarre performance by South Melbourne.

For 70 minutes Marconi pressured the Hellas goal mercilessly yet the locals raced to an unassailable 4-0 lead.

It was only after the Sydneysiders had conceded the fourth goal that they began to falter in midfield and conceded territory to South Melbourne.

Only seven minutes into the game South Melbourne scored when a moment of indecision by Marconi keeper Robert Catlin allowed Egan room to head in a Danny Crainie free kick.

Though Marconi piled on the pressure, the sharp passing of Gerardo Gomez and Zlatko Nastevski was enough to threaten goal but not enough to break through Hellas' last line of defence.

Just before half-time a ball from Bobby Russell was touched on beautifully by Stuart Stevenson to Egan who took it wide off Catlin on the right and slotted it home.

Ian Gray and Frank Farina both came close to scoring with shots early in the second half but it was Hellas in the 60th minute who did the damage.

A cross from Angie Postecoglou fell in the area for Carl Harford who slammed into the goal.

Then 10 minutes later Egan put the result beyond all doubt with a stunning 40 metre run taking him to the edge of the Marconi box.

He neatly side-stepped Catlin and shot truly.

Marconi got its consolation goal one minute from time when Farina glided over the Olympic Park mud to meet a David Lowe pass and shoot past keeper Peter Laumets.

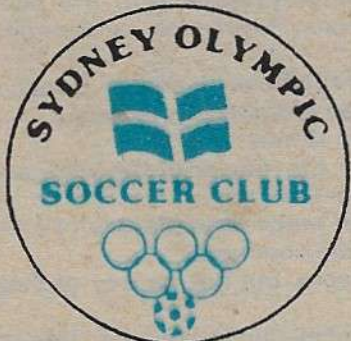
SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Postecoglou, McDowall,

Blair, Halford, Crainie, Miranda, Egan, Wright, Stevenson.

MARCONI: Catlin, Carter, Wheatley, Henderson, Gomez, Gray, Lowe, Farina, Nastevski, Sterrey, McCulloch (Gunning half-time).

QSF president Ian Brusasco struck a blow for Australian Soccer when he beat NZFA president Charlie Dempsey over 18 holes of golf at Auckland club during the recent Queensland Soccer tour of New Zealand. Brusasco returned an amazing 40 stableford points.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v FOOTSCRAY



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SYDNEY OLYMPIC v MARCONI



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SBS-TV

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(PERTH 2AM, ADELAIDE 3.30AM)

DIRECT FROM VIENNA

BAYERN MUNICH v PORTO F.C.

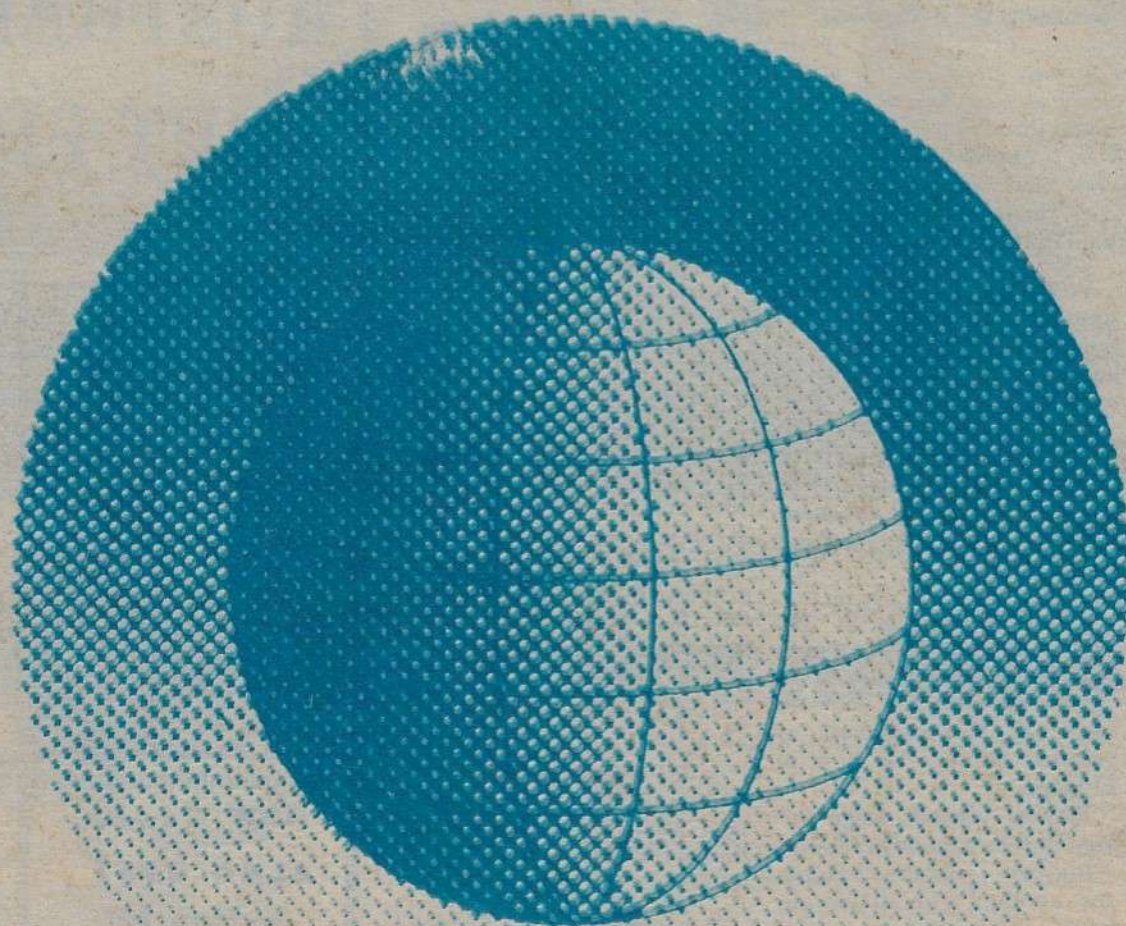
9.30PM

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Special Guests
**JOHNNY WARREN & LES
SCHEINFLUG**

SBS



TV

THE VERY BEST OF THE BRITISH

— BUT BRUNSWICK IN A DEEP TROUGH

WITNESSED the best of British Soccer last weekend in the semi final and final of the FA Cup.

The English FA Cup semi-finals traditionally have produced exciting, competitive games of Soccer.



COVENTRY CITY captain BRIAN KILCLINE holds the FA Cup aloft following the 3-2 victory over Tottenham at Wembley Stadium.

Players give themselves completely to winning a place in the sun of Wembley for the final, the most glamorous club game in world Soccer.

Such was the semi-final between Coventry and Leeds.

Every player poured himself into the game, never flinching in the face of physical challenge, each player throwing himself into tackles as though his life depended on the winning of them.

Yet the tackles were invariably fair, a spirit of sportsmanship pervaded the game, there were no injuries, but lots of skilful play.

Both teams kept the ball on the ground much of the time and there was some great long and short passing.

I have seen games which have been more skilful, yet I rate the semi-final between Coventry and Leeds the best game of Soccer I have ever seen.

This personal rating is based on the intensity of the battle which raged on the field at Hillsborough, in Sheffield.

A battle full of skills, courage, fitness and fair play.

A lone goal gave the result to Coventry.

From the great qualities they displayed, I knew they would stretch Tottenham all the way in the final.

So it proved. As the FA Cup final went into extra time, the fitness and character of this uncelebrated team was potent.

Once they went in front they always looked a winner.

Tottenham Hotspur, traditionally in their long history have played exhilarating, skilful Soccer.

It is not the sort of grinding, percentage Soccer that usually takes team to league championships in England.

However, the flair, with sufficient back up of commitment, can often be sustained through a Cup run.

So it has proved for Spurs, who have played in more Cup finals than any other team in England.

With the adventurous style of both teams the Cup final was always a chance to be a good game, and it turned out that way.

Once more you saw the fitness and combativeness of English players, but in this game added to by excellent skills on the ball by many of them.

What impresses in the British game is the manliness of the way it is played.

In a previous article we spoke of the manliness of Scottish Soccer. So it is in England.

Players seldom feign injury. It is looked down upon.

Players seldom cripple one another with deliberate fouls.

There is a strong Players Union in England which fights for players' rights and also encourages players to do the right thing by



MIKE JOHNSON, ex-English First Division footballer and top-line coach speaks...

one another on the field and not take away one another's livelihood with cynical or brutal tackling.

So the game has character. You do not give up.

It also often lacks skill of sufficient quality, inventiveness, flair and creative intelligence.

The Cup final was an exception and the commentators found it difficult not to be overcome by the free flowing, skilful contest helped by a capable and sensible referee.

But the players assisted the referee.

They were not kicking one another all day, not gestulating, not making tumblers worse than they were, not feigning injury.

That is a great quality in the British game and I hope they do not lose it.

It is an example to some playing professional Soccer in European and South America who are skilful, but bring their game down with kicking, tripping, spitting, shirt pulling, over the ball tackles and all manner of cynical play which makes referees' lives so hard and kills Soccer as a spectacle.

Back Home

Which brings me to the Brunswick Juventus versus Sydney Croatia game in Sydney, played the day after the cup final.

One team tried to play Soccer, the other team tried to stop them from playing. Well that is alright!

Brunswick are in a bit of a trough and they had three first team regulars out.

They were entitled to keep it tight, even though it may not suit the spectators who are not very numerous at our games these days.

However, kicking players around the park really does take the shine off any game and it doesn't do much for players' legs either.

This is compounded when we have a referee who does not protect players, while failing to apply the advantage rule to a game continually stopped because of fouls.

Because the Sydney Croatia players were not protected by the referee in the first half against Brunswick, they took matters into their own hands in the second half.

They started kicking and tripping the Brunswick play-



FA Cup Final action as Tottenham captain RICHARD GOUGH goes up for a header with team-mates Mitchell Thomas and Chris Waddle in support. In attendance for Coventry is their skipper Brian Kilcline and Keith Houchen (obscured).

ers causing more fouls, more stoppages and nil entertainment for the crowd.

Amazingly, after the game the Brunswick coach said he thought it had been reasonably entertaining for the spectators.

Now here in Australia we are trying to bring the skill level up to that of top level

countries while making it more attractive for spectators at club games.

Our competitive society breeds competitive Soccer players. That can be excellent as we seek improvement.

But not if we seek to stimulate the competitive level so much that it spills

over into violent play where skill is squashed.

Coaches and referees are the most critical influences in allowing skill to flourish.

If coaches do it right and referees get it right, players will produce more games like the FA Cup final which was a shining adornment to Soccer.

HAT-TRICK TO INGHAM

SEAN INGHAM notched a hat-trick yesterday in Adamstown's 5-0 win over Wallsend in the Northern Soccer Federation match at Broadmeadow.

Adamstown remain the unbeaten leaders on 15 points, having scored 22 goals in five matches.

Belmont-Swansea hold second spot on 13 points after a hard fought 2-1 win over Central Coast.

Highfields Azzurri moved into equal third place with Weston by beating that team 2-0.

AUSTRALIAN CUP NEEDED BUT PROMOTION VITAL

and the outcome with Coventry lifting the Cup was fabulous.

It just shows what a great leveller cup football is and brings out the unpredictability of cup games.

Not many people gave Coventry much chance against the star-studded Spurs team, but in one-off games in the cup there's always a chance of surprises.

How often have the underdogs got up to win?

It's a completely different ball game to league football where consistency over a full season usually means that the better teams come out on top over the minnows.

I still believe that a truly National Cupin Australia, promoted well, could give a bit of glamour to the game as well as giving teams in States not connected with the National League like, West Australia, Tasmania and

Queensland a chance of being involved with the rest of Australia.

Cup Soccer has never seemed to take off in Australia, and has usually taken second place to the league, but it is different to the league programme and should be promoted as such, with the chance of the smaller clubs doing the impossible.

Perhaps one way would be each State promoting their own cup competition, and then the finalists in each State, coming in with the big NSL teams in the first round with a proper draw being made.

In the past its usually been league champions from states, but as we've said cup Soccer is different to the league and an upset is always on the cards.

If we could get more games like Saturday's Wembley final then the crowds would roll up.



NSW Coach, ALAN VEST writes for ASW

IT was a wonderful spectacle at Wembley for the Coventry City and Tottenham FA final

MOST FAMOUS SOCCER BALL IN THE WORLD

OFFICIAL BALL ENDORSED BY NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND PREPARES FOR THE 'AULD ENEMY'

BRISBANE Lions star Rob Farrow became the second Queensland team goalkeeper to break his leg over the past 12 months in a tragic ending to the Maroons tour of New Zealand last week.

Farrow cracked his tibia 34 minutes into Queensland's final game against Auckland. He is expected to be sidelined for at least eight weeks.

Last year, state team custodian Kim Wishart broke his leg in a national league game for Brisbane City and only returned to the playing field six weeks ago.

Although Farrow showed great bravery after the injury and during the painful trip home, the leg break overshadowed what had been a brilliant tour for Bruce Stowell's Maroons.

Queensland were defeated in the Quadrangular Auckland FA Centenary tournament which also involved Auckland, and the national teams of Tahiti and New Caledonia.

But the winner's trophy went to the hosts who scored two wins and a draw to Queensland's one win and two draws.

The Maroons and Auckland opened the tournament with 4-0 wins over Tahiti and New Caledonia respectively, but Queensland could only play a scoreless draw with New Caledonia in the second match as Auckland downed Tahiti 2-0.

Queensland needed to beat Auckland in the final match to win the tournament, but despite being the better team, they could only draw 1-1.

But it was one of the most gallant performances in years from the Maroons and augurs well for the interstate clash with New South Wales at Perry Park on June 14.

Adshead's Rating

After the Auckland match, former Kiwi national coach John Adshead, the Auckland coach — rated Queensland as one of the best provincial sides in Oceania.

"When I first saw them I considered them a tidy, well organised team but in this match they showed they were a lot, lot better than that. They absolutely dominated the midfield and I guess we were lucky to get away with a draw," Adshead said.

Queensland lost the match when a moment of indecision allowed NZ International David Witteveen to drive a 30m shot into the net off a freekick. It was something the Queensland team that morning had worked on preventing, but it could be noted that Farrow, who had been carried off 10 minutes earlier, had been in goals during the practice.

But that is to take nothing away from North Star keeper Dave Gallagher who proved a gutsy replacement for Farrow. Gallagher only needs to maintain his present form to be a first up selection for the NSW game.

Queensland coach Bruce Stowell was delighted with his team's whole-hearted and professional attitude through the tournament, but naturally was disappointed his side did not win the event.

"We were the best team there but just two minutes when we lost our concentration and acted stupidly cost us the match and the tournament," he reflected.

Since returning to Australia, Stowell has wasted no time in preparing for the forthcoming interstate match. He already had begun scouring the XXXX League for further State squad additions and hopes to get his squad back into training this week.

"I am looking to build on what we achieved in New Zealand and I am always on the lookout for quality players who perform consistently. I believe I had the best performed 15 players in Queensland in New Zealand, but no-one should consider themselves being an automatic selection for the NSW game," he said.

"If I see someone better than what I have in the squad I will have no hesitation to bring them in."

If the tour did anything, it certainly silenced those who criticised Stowell for selecting "older" players. Steve Perry, 33, was the man of the match in the first game, the 30-year-old Alan Niven was Queensland's most outstanding in the second match while 33-year-old captain Frank Liddell was best afield in the Auckland clash.

"I never considered them old. I looked at them as players who were consistently performing at a high level in their positions," Stowell said.



ALAN NIVEN

BRISBANE CITY RUMPUS

A CARETAKER committee has been put in charge of former National League club Azzurri Brisbane City.

Trust Members stepped in and called an emergency general meeting when the 15-member board, appointed only months ago dwindled to just three people.

The caretaker committee features many of the club members who steered City during its NSL days but stepped down last year. The club was taken over by a Tony Bellino-led committee.

Bellino, who invited several of his friends to become involved with Brisbane City, was named last week in a Four Corners program into organised crime in Queensland. He has since been quoted as saying he intends to take a two month holiday overseas.

Back at the helm of the club now is Sam Pappalardo, the immediate past president.

"The committee members found themselves in a position where they were unable to cope," said Pappalardo, a trustee member and the likely president-elect.

Pappalardo, who had been the driving force behind Brisbane City for many years, said a special general meeting would be called in a month to formalise a new committee.

But he added the caretaker committee would have to act immediately to stabilise the club.

"There are many rumours, but they are not true. The club's position is no worse than before and our future is definitely safe," Pappalardo said.

"But we believe there have been monies spent in the wrong areas and we will have new negotiations with our coach and our players within the next week."

"But we believe we have a very good coach and our players are trying their best so we do not expect any big changes."

City were XXXX League leaders in round 5 but in recent weeks have started to slip down the table. On hearing the news of the committee change Azzurri coach Juan Cutillas immediately asked the new caretaker committee to honor the two-year terms the previous committee had offered him.

Cutillas said he did not have a written contract, but that had only been because the former committee and been slow to produce the document, despite his continued requests.

"I am very happy at the club and I want to stay here," Cutillas said.

"This year we are consolidating, and I think our results so far show that, but next year will be when we will make our big punch."

LIONS' \$4000 WHEELER DEAL

QUEENSLAND striker Dave Wheeler hopes to be partnered again sometime in the future with former Coalstars team-mate Mark Brusasco despite their parting in the transfer sensation of the Queensland Soccer season a week ago.

Wheeler, 24, went from Coalstars to Lions for \$4000 after the former NSL club dumped and re-registered Irish import Dave Richardson. Richardson had been playing consistently without starring and the club expected more from a visa import.

The drastic de-registration was needed to make way for Wheeler, an Englishman also playing in Australia on a visa, as Lions also have Scots Frank Liddell and Jim Morton on their books.

News of Wheeler's switch broke during the recent Queensland tour of New Zealand where Wheeler and Brusasco paired up front in the unbeaten Maroons team. Their goal-producing combination for Queensland mirrored some of their best games for Coalstars and Wheeler has no doubts that he has split the best striker duo in the state.

"But the time was right for me to make a move. I had the opportunity before and I let it go. I wasn't going to let it pass again," Wheeler said.

"But I hope the New Zealand tour wasn't the last time I play alongside Mark. Naturally I hope we both keep our Queensland team places but perhaps we could be back together if Lions get back in the National League next year."

"Mark is the best player I have ever played alongside, as far as complimenting my game. We just had an understanding that meant we

could both knock balls without even looking and know the other one was there."

Wheeler, whose signing meant he became the nine Lions player among the 15 who toured New Zealand, said his Queensland team involvement with the Lions players had influenced his decision.

"I enjoy playing with the Lions players in the Queensland team and think it was the right time for a move," he said.

"I have done three seasons at Coalstars and I have been loyal to them in that time, but I couldn't say no to this opportunity. I want to play National League and I think Lions are the only team capable of getting there."

Wheeler managed to score for Lions when he made his debut in a 3-0 win over XXXX League leaders Easts, just two days after the Queensland team's return from New Zealand.

Brusasco, a former Rothmans medallist, was approached at the same time as Wheeler but opted against a move to Richlands, saying he had given a verbal commitment to Coalstars.

QUEENSLAND
SOCCER FEDERATION



GREG RUSSELL
covers the
Queensland
scene

RAIN CAUSED GILBERTIAN SITUATION

A WEEK of rain last week in Brisbane caused fixture chaos, and produced one of the biggest controversies this season.

The torrential rain washed out more than 70 league and cup matches over the week, including a game between Mount Gravatt and Olympic on the first weekend of the big wet.

The match was the only XXXX League game postponed on that weekend, although nearly the entire first round of the cup later that week and 56 fixtures the following weekend were put off as the rain continued.

Mount Gravatt had leading referee Gordon Nicholson inspect the pitch and he postponed the match early on Sunday morning. But there were claims, hotly denied by the club, that sprinklers had been turned on overnight.

Mount Gravatt had been the most vocal of clubs against the QSF for not getting state team players back from New Zealand in time for the Saturday XXXX League matches in Round 8.

It meant the Hawks were to be without the star state team midfielder for two games while most other clubs would lose their state players for only one game.

"Everyone wrongly linked the two issues and immediately accused us of flooding our field. That's complete rubbish and anyone who was at the field at the time of the inspection would have realised the overnight rain had made the ground unsafe," said Hawks president Paul Lonton.

Despite the official postponement, QSF president Ian Brusasco ordered from Auckland that the game be rescheduled and played before the Queensland team returned. The match was rescheduled to Wednesday night, but as the big wet continued, it again was not played.

The huge fixture backlog has now created a massive headache for QSF assistant secretary Jim Gilbert who must find suitable dates for rescheduled matches.

Things could turn out worse for some clubs, who might find themselves playing several games a week to meet their league and cup commitments and catch up on their wet games.

"We will try and spread the games as best we can but there are only so many suitable dates and available fields. And things are made worse in the XXXX League if a team with matches in hand has a good run in the Ampol Cup," said Gilbert.

MULVEY BROTHERS RE-UNITED

TWO of the most skilful players in Brisbane, brothers Phil and Michael Mulvey, have been united on the field for the first time following a surprise mid-season transfer.

Phil, 21, stunned XXXX League club Taringa, which has only amateur players, when he moved to North Star to join 24-year-old Michael.

And now the pair are set to reap a goal harvest for the reigning premiers.

Michael, a former Manchester United youth team representative, was a fringe player in the Lions NSL squad but often was used as a defender.

He switched to North Star this season and instantly struck up a successful scoring partnership with the club's former New Zealand international Alan Marley. In the first six games, Michael netted six goals.

And up until his move to

North Star, "Magical" Phil was maintaining a similar pace at Taringa, scoring four goals in six games. And he scored on his debut for North Star, against Brisbane City, but was ruled to be offside by what must have been the finest of margins.

North Star officials are confident the pair can combine to keep the goalscoring figures rolling over this season. There even has been some suggestions that the Mulvey brothers could form a future NSL partnership if the O'Callaghan Park club is successful in its bid to beat Lions into the NSL promotion play-off series.

But at the moment, the pair are playing things low-

key and are adopting a modest attitude.

"We will be out there trying our best and at the moment we are just concentrating on the next game. The best way we can prove ourselves is by giving 100 percent and scoring or setting up goals. It's too early to be thinking about anything else," said the baby-faced Phil.

The Mulveys will be in action when North Star takes on Easts in the match of the round at Heath Park on Sunday. Other games this weekend are: Saturday: Redlands v Rochedale, Showgrounds, 2.45pm; Grange Thistle v Olympic Utd, Lanham Park, 6pm; Azzurri Brisbane City v Taringa R., Perry Park, 7pm; Sunday: Ipswich United v Mt Gravatt, Ebbw Vale, 2.45pm; Lions v Coalstars, Richlands, 2.45pm.

"I can't work with a committee that says one thing at the beginning of the season and then something completely different six weeks later," Spearritt said.

"Our original aim was to just avoid relegation, but now they want to be higher on the table. To do that you have got to buy top players and I was never given the budget for that."

"The knives came out and went straight into my back. I have got a business with a \$1.4 million turnover, so I don't need hassles with Soccer."

Rochedale president John Hancock confirmed that Spearritt's business interests had swung the committee to consider a new man.

"It's not that we consider Eddie a bad coach. He is well-liked within the club. But we have now discovered we need a coach who can offer more time that what Eddie could with his business commitments," Hancock said.

"We need someone who is constantly involved with the game and has their finger on the pulse. Someone who knows player movements and when to step in to grab a good youngster and or an experienced player."

"Although at the time of the split, Rochedale officials were keeping quiet on their replacement, assistant coach Alan Hughes, the former Lions, Brisbane City and APIA NSL player, was the logical choice. But the club also was believed to have approached a leading Brisbane Soccer identity."

Rochedale attempted to recently lure Jim Hermiston back to the playing field, and it is understood he may have been offered the club coaching position this time.

EDDIE SPEARRITT LEAVES ROCHEDALE

IT took eight rounds into the season before the Queensland XXXX League competition saw its first coaching casualty.

And the man to lose his position was former Lions NSL player-coach Eddie Spearritt who split with newly promoted Rochedale Rovers.

Spearritt was asked to resign when Rovers lost their fourth consecutive match and plummeted to within two places and two points of the last placed relegation position.

There had been rumors of discontent at Underwood Park for some weeks and the moves to oust Spearritt gained momentum after a 3-0 loss to Taringa, followed by an 8-3 drubbing by Brisbane City and a 3-1 defeat by local rivals, Mount Gravatt. But the final straw came last week when Rochedale were beaten 4-1 by similarly placed Olympic.

Spearritt, who has been with the club in varying capacities for the past six years was naturally disappointed by the club's request for him to re-sign and felt the committee had changed its outlook.

ILLAWARRA-CANBERRA FINALISED

BY PHIL MURPHY

ILLAWARRA clubs with a chance of making the top four will have to quickly change any plans they have of an end-of-season trip now the Ampol Cup series against Canberra teams has been finalised.

The top four Illawarra teams will go in against the best Canberra can offer at the end of the season but there have been rumblings of discontent from one or two Wollongong clubs.

Most already have their traditional end-of-season trips planned, most of them over the October long weekend.

If they qualify for the new series they can forget about going away.

The long weekend will be used for the first of the knockout games and the final will be staged on a home-and-away basis.

It is a situation where clubs may well cancel all their plans for a trip to Queensland or wherever only to miss out on the top four anyway.

Association spokesman John Walker said that is something the clubs just have to live with.

"The concept is a great idea with about \$9000 in prizemoney available," he said. "Being part of this should be more important than a trip away."

Walker said the series is something Illawarra administrators have been working on for a long time.

He said clubs have been asking that some kind of incentive be introduced for them apart from simply making the semi-finals each year.

"Now these clubs can represent the district in a really worthwhile competition and build up their bank balance at the same time," Walker said.

"We see it being an annual affair and the games should prove entertaining as there is never much between the teams when Illawarra meet Canberra in the annual representative games each June."

Separation

Two bus-loads of

spectators travelled from Wollongong to watch the State Bank League match between Melita and the Wolves at Melita Stadium.

One carried the Wolves supporters and the other was full of Melita barrackers.

That is the simple answer to the most-often asked question in Illawarra Soccer: "Why didn't the Wolves draw better crowds in the National League?"

Wollongong City have never appealed to the many ethnic factions living in the Wollongong region.

These people would turn up in droves when the Wolves played the likes of Croatia, Sydney Olympic or to a lesser extent Marconi but generally they simply didn't support Wollongong Soccer generally.

Manly of them would travel to Sydney to watch their favourite team rather than go to Wollongong Showground.

It is a sad fact of Soccer life on the South Coast that there are only a handful of people who will support the team or teams who play in the top league available.

Assessment

It's official — Illawarra referees will again be assessed by club officials in all games.

The ISA and Referees' Association have agreed the system will be re-introduced in a bid to keep tabs on the "form" of referees.

Used successfully in most parts of NSW, the system can become something of a joke if the form is given to the wrong club officials.

Illawarra clubs have been urged by the association to ensure an experienced man, possibly an ex-referee, be given the task.

Referees' spokesman Phil Torphy said most refs are in favour of the forms being re-introduced.

"There have been cases where people have treated them as a joke but used properly than can benefit referees and clubs alike," Torphy said.

"Over a season the marks given by the different clubs have to give a consistent guide to how a referee is performing."

"Our members generally welcome the system."

Unlucky Chris

Spare a thought for former Wollongong City captain Chris Dunleavy.

Dunleavy was involved in a serious road accident three years ago after switching from Wollongong to Blacktown.

He recently made a comeback to Soccer with Illawarra Premier League club Aris and before his second appearance was appointed club coach.

That particular game was against Bulli but unfortunately he was injured after just 12 minutes and had to leave the field.

He has suspended Achilles tendon trouble and could again face a long spell on the sideline.

The one compensation is that he will have some involvement as coach but has already admitted he was "tearing his hair out" while unable to play during his three years recovering from the road accident.

It won't be an easy task at Aris as the club slumped to the bottom of the league after going down 5-0 to Bulli.

They lost 6-1 to South Coast Croatia a week earlier.

ULVERSTONE BLAST WAY TO LEAD

ULVERSTONE scored a convincing win over leaders Launceston City in their Honeychurch Premier League 7th round match at Invermay Park.

Amid a wet, overcast and dull day the Reds recovered from an early City goal to take a one goal half-time lead and add a further two before the end.

Both teams took the field minus a number of key players, most injured and recovering from previous clashes.

City's home loss dropped them to third place while Georgetown's win slotted them into second position.

The Town scored an uninspiring win over bottom-of-the-table team, Olympic.

Devonport and Juventus entertained the crowd at Valley Road as they battled to share the points.

Juve's new signing from England, Steven Guest, joined his brother Colin in the line-up and quickly made his mark.

He and Roger Mies helped Juve take a two goal lead before Boyd and Parke replied to level the scores.

Round 7 result:

Matric 1 (P. Davis) White Eagles 0, Georgetown 2 (M. Farrell, Schiebl) Olympic 0, Ulverstone 4 (Sallese, Howe, Jones, o.g.) Launceston 1 (Bessell) Devonport 2 (Parke, Boyd) Juventus 2 (Mies, S. Guest) Launceston United 0 Brunie 0.

Fouls

Two penalties in the first half of their 8th round tie with Launceston United gave Juventus their third win in the Northern Tasmania's Honeychurch Premier League.

Juve pressed into United's half from the outset but had difficulty converting their opportunities, and it was not until the 18th min. that they did convert an opportunity, albeit a penalty.

Kelly's foul gave Colin Guest the easy chance of slotting home the first of his two penalties.

The home team's second goal arrived 15 mins. later, also a penalty. And Guest converted by rocketing it past Wright.

The second half continued much as the first, with little to excite the crowd; Juve eventually seeing out the half by keeping United scoreless and they themselves unable to add any further goals.

Devonport visited Georgetown, then left with full points.

Monagle put his team into the lead in the 15th min. and this remained so until the 30th min. when a Port free-kick gave Mike Meldrum the opportunity to equalise.

Georgetown continued to press for more goals as the game progressed but found themselves down after Meldrum put Devonport into the lead with 15 mins. to go.

Devonport sealed the game when Georgetown gave away an own goal while in search of an equaliser.

Ulverstone struggled to a 3-2 win over a determined Riverside Olympic team that, even at this stage of the season, is staring relegation in the face.

Anyone will tell you that it is not easy to leave Knight's Road victorious, but Olympic tried to defy the odds and had two goals to their credit within the first 30 mins. but the home side recovered to level the scores before the break.

They broke the deadlock in the 60th min. and hung on to maintain their leadership for the second consecutive week.

Round 8 results: Ulverstone (Howe 2, Foote) Riv. Olympic (Hendey, Stuart) 3-2, Launceston City (Bessell 2, Pryor, Hogan) Matric 4-0, Devonport (M. Meldrum 2, o.g.) Georgetown (Monagle) 3-1, Burnie (Casafu, Foley) White Eagles 2-0, Juventus (C. Guest 2) Launceston United 2-0.

Ladder (after Rd 8):

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ulverstone	8	7	0	1	27	8	14
Launceston City	8	6	1	1	28	16	13
Devonport	8	5	2	1	29	9	12
Georgetown	8	5	1	2	18	11	11
Juventus	8	3	2	3	19	17	8
Burnie	8	2	3	3	10	14	7
Matric	8	3	1	4	9	15	7
White Eagles	8	2	0	6	12	23	4
Launce. Utd	8	0	3	5	6	28	3
Riv. Olympic	8	0	1	7	6	21	1

Tassie Schools

The Northern Tasmanian Primary Soccer Association held their annual 6-a-Side Carnival at Ogilvie Park, April 26.

Carnival sponsors included the Island State Credit Union, Century Motors and Attack Sports.

Teams from Launceston, Georgetown and Hagley battled it out in four divisions — Under-9, 10, 11 and Opens — for the prestigious Enrico Visentin Perpetual Trophy.

This trophy is in dedication of the services to Primary School by the late Enrico Visentin and is awarded to the school/club which after the Carnival has gained the best aggregate results.

The winners of the trophy were Youngtown Primary School — a great effort for a school with very few players.

Results: Under-9 Division: Youngtown 2 Glen Dhu 0, Under-10 Division: Trevallyn 1 Youngtown 0, Under-11 Division: St Leonards 1 Youngtown 0, Open Division: Riverside 2 Norwood 0.

A new Soccer league has been formed in Northern Tasmania, based in Launceston.

The Northern Tasmanian Christian Soccer League is a fledgling organisation that is making excellent progress. They have held a number of coaching sessions and registration days and will begin their roster matches on May 23 at Windsor Park, Launceston.

Mike Denton is still scoring goals. In a recent reserve league match against White Eagles he notched all of his teams goals.

Burnie won 5-0.

Peter Davidson has been appointed as the Regional Director of Coaching in Northern Tasmania.

He holds an ASF Level 3 Certificate and is, at present, coach of Matric in the Honeychurch Premier League.

Launceston Juventus' Fijian midfielder, Sosi Kaitani, will play again on his return from Fiji, May 16.

Club officials may rush him from the airport to the ground where they will take on White Eagles.

He may have to change in the car on the way to the park, or maybe jump from the plane with a parachute.



Paul Furjanic

YET ANOTHER TOUR MESS!

BY TOM MCKAIN

THE latest tour farce — the cancellation of the Westay series involving Celtic, Manchester United and Nottingham Forest — again highlights the need for the Australian Soccer Federation to take charge of all series involving overseas teams.

While all the details had not been revealed at the time of going to press, we believe the Westay Group, a Perth promotions company, failed to lodge cash in the UK, and the British clubs refused to take off until their match fees had been assured.

They were due to play two games in Adelaide — Celtic v Forest on Friday night and Celtic v United on Saturday (May 29 and 30) — before heading for two games in Perth then on to Jakarta where Indonesia was to join the tournament.

Pre-sales in Adelaide were the best ever with more than \$40,000 being handed over the SA Soccer Federation's headquarter's counter at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Fortunately the SASF has

always been wary of any promoters, and as usual stuck to the "match first, payment later" principal.

This means all fans who had bought tickets will be refunded in full.

Bookings were taken from Celtic supporters' clubs in New Zealand, Victoria, NSW and Queensland.

"We feel terribly sorry for fans of all the clubs, but particularly the Celtic people who had spent so much time and money arranging the trip to Adelaide," said SASF secretary Mr Peter Nikolich.

"But I can't help laying some of the blame at the feet of the ASF which approved the Westay Group in the first place."

ASF Involved

The ASF were involved through the Socceroos until SBS's TV contract for the rights to the national team clashed with Westay's TV plans and the Socceroos were dumped from the tournament.

Sydney and Melbourne games were cancelled and Adelaide and Perth were on their own.

But they did have assurances that Westay was fit to run the series and the SA and WA Federations stuck to the agreement for games.

When all did not seem well the SASF cabled each club for an assurance they would be coming to Aus-

tralia. This was given, subject to final contract details which were described as a "formality."

The first signs of a major hiccup came when PRO, the UK promotions firm working through Westay informed the SASF that no cash had been lodged in the UK.

While Westay and PRO carry the can, it is Soccer which has been discredited — again!

Recent tours under the ASF's so-called marketing arm have been financial disasters.

But when the dust settled the ASF was never to blame.

It is time they got their act together or the time will come when no overseas teams will agree to tour.

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QUEENS BIRTHDAY TREAT FOR A.C.T. ENTHUSIASTS

TOP Soccer will return to Canberra on Queen's Birthday Monday with a full senior representative match between the ACT and NSW at Bruce Stadium.

Delighted ACT Soccer Federation officials are hailing the game as a much needed boost for the sport following the loss of NSL Soccer at the end of last season.

"It's a tremendous breakthrough," federation publicity officer Steve Doszpot said "and a very important step in our efforts to rebuild the game in our area and make the ACT a recognised force in Soccer.

The match has been organised by ACTSF president Charles Perkins who made a representative Soccer program one of his priorities on taking office late last year.

Perkins had also been in touch with the Victorian Soccer Federation in the hope that a further fixture can be arranged.

Doszpot stressed that the games would not displace ACT Senior League representative games. "The traditional Canberra Times Shield match with Illawarra will go ahead on the Saturday on the long weekend," he said.

"The best players from the local competition will be considered for the territory team, but we will also be drawing from Canberra Griffins and the Australian Institute of Sport.

"The NSW side should be drawn from the leading Sydney clubs in the NSL. Australia is playing an international in

Adelaide on that day, but those players apart, we expect the strongest possible opposition with some players on the brink of international selection."

Former Canberra City coach Roy Thomson will be in charge of the ACT team and began his work by checking out the AIS in its Victorian League Challenge game with Caulfield City at Bruce. Senior League vice chairman Don Rushan will be manager.

Doszpot said the fixture would be promoted as an important and exciting day for Canberra Soccer. "We have invited the ACT Women's Soccer Association to provide a match as a curtain raiser and we also plan a fun game between the media and a president's XI.

"The Griffins have promised their full co-operation and the ACT clubs have agreed not to put on any fixtures at the same time.

"We see this as a way of drawing the Griffins and the institute more closely into the ACT Soccer family."

SHOCK, HORROR CROATIA DOWN

CCAЕ pulled off the shock of the ACT Soccer season with a 3-2 win over holder Croatia Deakin in the Federation Cup quarter finals.

The college, which had to wait until the previous week before gaining its first league win of the season, scored twice through Peter Robinson and Jason Thornton just before half-time.

But when Croatia replied through Emile Maricic and John Furora within 10 minutes of the interval, CCAЕ seemed to be on its way out.

Instead it was the College which found the net again. With three minutes to go Romeo Cicolini took the ball almost to the goal line.

A cross seemed to be his only option, but instead he shot from an acute angle and saw the ball go in off the underside of the crossbar.

Juventus gained revenge for a league loss to Belconnen United the previous week, winning the cup

match 3-0.

The first goal came when United goalkeeper Richard Tomaszewski misjudged a long range shot from Danny Serena, the ball hitting his chest and bouncing out to Frank Maddafrai who scored.

Then Frank Pelle picked the ball up on the halfway line and sent it on to Dominic Rinaldo who found the net with a swerving shot.

United had more of the play in the second half as Juventus defended its lead until 10 minutes from the end when Serena got away from Tomaszewski to make it 3-0.

Canberra City reached the semi-final for the second year in a row when it beat fellow second division side ANU 3-0 with goals from

Dick Sliwinski and Nick Tonini (2).

The fourth quarter-final depends on a disputed match between Condors and Belwest in an earlier round.

Condors lost the match on penalties then protested on the grounds that its opponent had used three substitutes — one more than the rules of the competition allow. Belwest argued that the substitute ruling, which is in contrast to the normal league allowance of four, had not been communicated to it.

A hearing has been scheduled with the eventual winner meeting RMC in the quarter final.

MIHAILIDIS NOW WITH THOMASTOWN

CANBERRA Soccer defender John Mihailidis has been sold to Victorian State League side Thomastown for a satisfactory fee, Canberra City Griffins secretary Taso Samios said.

The former Australian Institute of Sport and Soccer-oo B international spent two seasons with City before deciding last year that he wanted to return to his home in Melbourne.

"Since then we have heard from Heidelberg, but because he was a former player with them they wanted him for next to nothing and negotiations broke down," Samios said.

"Apart from a rumour that South Melbourne was interested we heard nothing until the Thomastown approach. Terms have been agreed and he is now free to play for them."

GARY COLE GAINS POST AT THE AIS

ONE of Australian's best known and most experienced Soccer players, Gary Cole, has been named the assistant coach to Ron Smith at the Australian Institute of Sport.

Cole, who began his playing career for Ringwood in the Victorian State League, transferred to Heidelberg at the outset of the National League in 1977 and stayed there for seven years before transferring to Preston for another three season-until the end of the 1986 campaign.

In 10 years for the two clubs he scored 131 goals in well over 200 games — a record for the competition — and played 38 times for Australia scoring 21 goals.

Seven of those came in one match, a 10-0 win over Fiji in 1981, which still stands as a record in internationals for an Australian player.

Cole, 31, has been involved in coaching junior and youth players since 1975 and while his playing career has limited his coaching opportunities, he has still managed to complete courses under the national training scheme.

He and his family will be moving from Melbourne to Canberra shortly.



GARY COLE in full flight.

PALACIOS PRAISES ECONOMOPOULOS

THE Canberra Griffins may have lost one of the best goalkeepers in Australia when Tony Franken left for Sydney Croatia at the end of 1986, but player-coach Augusto Palacios believes the Soccer club has one — maybe even two — of potentially the same quality.

The Griffins conceded only seven goals in their first nine NSW State Bank League games this season, and a good deal of the credit for that must go to George Economopoulos, Franken's deputy in the National Soccer League last season.

Canberra-born Econo-

mopoulos, who graduated through the local junior ranks with Concordia Phillip and Downer Olympic, has grown in confidence since taking over as a first-team regular and Palacios believes the 22-year-old could one day be in the running for a Socceroo place.

"All he needs is a little

more concentration during the game and he will be a top goalkeeper," he said.

And if Economopoulos even falters, the coach would have no qualms about calling on the current reserve, Anthony Giannasca.

Only 17 and still at school, Giannasca first came to the

notice of the club with a string of successful performances in Mike Black's National Youth League side last season.

Although the reserve team has not enjoyed the success of the firsts, Giannasca is one player who has drawn consistent praise from Palacios.

JACK COULTER PUNTS ON SUCCESS

ONE could hardly accuse Concordia-Canberra Soccer coach Jack Coulter of being unrealistic.

Unbeaten in its first three games, his side is sitting comfortably behind Croatia Deakin on the ACT Senior League ladder ahead of opponents of the quality of Belconnen United, Juventus and CCAЕ.

Considering that many, perhaps most, of the Soccer experts around Canberra would have tipped Concordia to be struggling at the foot of the table by now, one would have expected Coulter to be a least a little smug.

Quite the opposite. He has the air of a race punter in the middle of a lucky streak — knowing it can't last but determined to enjoy it to the full while it does.

"I am not taking anything

away from the lads, who have worked hard and deserve the success we've had, but I'd have to say that second is a false position for us in this competition," he said. "I started off the season saying that I would be happy with fourth place and I stick to that.

"Of the teams we have met, Narrabundah (won 5-4) were full of enthusiasm and probably a bad team to take on first up. Their morale will flag after a couple of beatings; Juventus (2-2) are not the side they used to be and did not have an effective midfield while Canberra City Olympians (won 3-2) have not found the right balance of youth and experi-

ence.

"We're good fighters — we were down in all three games but came back."

Up front Frank Loeschner was in touch with five goals so far, and Englishman Bernie Moebus was now under challenge by big youngster Ulli Palm, fresh out from Germany.

Coulter believed his

team's work rate was a major factor in its success.

"We are not the most skillful team in the world but we seem to wear down our opponents," he said. "Even so, I would have to say that we are second under false pretences — but ask me again at the end of the first round and if we are still there I might have a different answer."

GRIFFIN'S ANSWER?

CANBERRA Griffins' search for a striker to augment their NSW State Bank Soccer league squad may be over almost before it has begun.

Coach Augusto Palacios said that former youth team forward Tony Lemezina was interested in re-signing for the club.

"He has approached me at training and I am interested," Palacios said.

Lemezina scored more than his share of goals for City's National Youth League

side last year and his form earned him some first-team games at the end of the season.

He did not re-sign for the relegated club, choosing eventually to try to continue in the NSL with Melbourne Croatia.

He apparently found it difficult to settle and has been given a free transfer.

WATSON CUP

ANU won one trophy and came close to a second as the ACT women's Soccer season ended its first stage.

After lifting the Sarah Briggs Shield for lower grade sides, the university took Canberra City to a penalty shoot-out in the Elaine Watson Cup final, only to fall with some weak spot kicking.

For City, new to the competition this season, the result was a triumph over a series of setbacks. At no time during the competition was it able to field a full strength side and two losses earlier in the competition meant that the pressure was always on to qualify.

ANU gave its opponent an own-goal present early in the final, then fought back to equalise through Nikki Fuller. Extra time would not break the deadlock but the shoot-out was a virtual walk-over for City with Peta Winzar the only player to get past City goalkeeper Sandra D'Onofrio in reply to goals from Airene Sein, Marnie and Isabelle Kelly.

In the semi-finals City beat last year's winner, Weston Creek, 1-0 with a Sein goal and ANU came back from two early goals by Downer Olympic's Alex Focken to win 3-2 through Francine Dwyer (2) and an own goal.

ANU won the Briggs Shield with a 2-1 win over Tuggeranong United. What had started as a

comfortable stroll with the university cruising to a 2-0 lead through Mona Omari and Betty Palasio, turned into a tight game in the second half as United got one back through Rachel Higgins then threw everything into an ultimately unsuccessful search for the equaliser.

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WOMENS INDOOR SOCCER



MACKAY players Debbie Mifsud, Abi Keightley and Sonya Muscat on the ball. Along with Sandy Turner, Margaret Carter and Rita O'Neil they are Australia players.

THE REAL MACKAY!

SIX Mackay women indoor Soccer players sent records flying when they stormed the recent Australian indoor Soccer training camp in Sydney, gaining national selection.

They are Rita O'Neil (all age), Sandy Turner and Margaret Carter (under 19), and Sonya Muscat, Debbie Mifsud and Abi Keightley (under 16).

The Mackay players have two months of heavy training in front of them. As well as usual sessions, they have a preparation camps in Sydney in June.

This leads up to their test matches against Canada and the United States in July.

The players are fresh from the Easter training camp in Sydney.

They were invited to the camp after being selected at the national titles held in Canberra in January of this year.

Tour cities haven't been finalised, coach Brian Keightley said.

"Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra or Brisbane will be hosting them," he added.

Keightley described the six players' selection as a great achievement.

"To have six girls from one town selected is unheard of. Most of the other girls in the teams come from Sydney and Sydney is a very big place.

"The girls have worked hard, not only in training, but also in funding raising but the real hard work has only just begun," he said.

"Mackay is at least two years ahead of itself in indoor Soccer. This has shown itself in the fact that Brisbane only got one girl selected and Bundaberg didn't have any. Both of these cities have been playing the game a lot longer than Mackay."

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NSL YOUTH LEAGUE-NORTH

ACKERLEY BLUDGEONS MANLY-WARRINGAH

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

DESPITE some indifferent results in the last few rounds Marconi stopped Manly in their tracks with a 6-0 drubbing at home on Sunday. Leading the charge was Chris Ackerley for the Leopards with four goals.

The match of the round was a dour encounter between leaders APIA and the unbeaten Olympic. Neither side could break the deadlock and the 0-0 result gives APIA a point lead over the Saints who had the bye this weekend.

Tony Versi scored the only goal of the match for Melita in their narrow win away to Sutherland and Warringah notched their first points of the season downing fellow cellar dwellers Uruguay 1-0 with a goal midway through the second half from John Reperti.

In the final match of the round Croatia failed to exert their supremacy against third bottom Canterbury and had to be satisfied with a scoreless draw seeing them slip out of the top five.

WARRINGAH 1
URUGUAY 0

The Freshwater side climbed off the bottom rung on Sunday despite losing Gary Simpson, sent off in the 65th minute.

After a goalless first period Warringah were shocked into action when Simpson was dismissed for a second late tackle after being booked in the first half for the same offence.

Three minutes later the Freshwater side hit the front through John Reperti who cracked the ball home from the edge of the box after a cross from the right.

The courageous ten men hung on to take the points and in fact played their best football after the departure of Simpson.

WARRINGAH: Zuccaro, Landini, Listorti, Cirino, Cayiriyys (Acuri), Simpson, Napria, Todarello, Reperti, Dann, Graziani.

Best Players: Cirino, Listorti, Landini.

APIA 0
OLYMPIC 0

As the scoreline would suggest neither side dominated and the few chances created were wasted. The match was scrappy on the Belmore Oval pitch but the ground had nothing to do with the lack of imagination from the two sides.

Despite the lost point APIA hold on to a slender margin at the top from the Saints with Olympic a further point adrift but with a couple of games in hand.

APIA: Greedy, Ancora, Papoythis, Vakirtsis, Petteon, Brady, Masi, Zullo, Radice (Criticos), Parison, Koukounaris.

OLYMPIC: London, Barrett, Hantzis, Piatoniotis, Briggs, Christ (Genaris), Zervas, Pontidas, Oustambasidis, Chilas (Bennett), Kotamanides.

MELITA 1
SUTHERLAND 0

Melita scraped through against the determined southerners to take the points and keep them three points from the lead.

Melita had the better of the chances in a fairly even clash and the only goal from Tony Versi in the 53rd minute was a cracker. Versi collected the ball from just outside the box and drove into the bottom left hand corner of Simpson's goal.

Although a draw would have been a fairer result the loss leaves Sutherland seven points adrift of the leading pack and a tough road ahead to make the five.

MELITA: Blow, Pratt, Daley, Colro, Pitcock, Dickinson, Versi (Tuysuz), Pucar (Blake), Klinskowski, Gilbert, Bath.

Best Players: Pratt, Dickinson, Colro.

SUTHERLAND: Simpson, Carroll, Ashton, Clarke (Long), Fielding, Glovenco, Sellar, Barr (Perkovic), Burnell, King, Mellier.

Best Players: Carroll, King, Burnell.

MARCONI 6
MANLY 0

The recent strong run from Manly was expected to be continued against a very inconsistent Marconi but the Leopards led by Chris Ackerley had other ideas.

Ackerley netted the only goal of the first half after just five minutes when he received a good through ball from Tony Surjan and scored with a good shot from eight metres.

Marconi were unfortunate not to add to their tally prior to the break when Surjan had a shot blocked by the keeper's legs on the line and Joe Russo went close with a shot that scraped the top of the bar.

The second half was a different story as Marconi stuck away all chances coming their way.

In the 58th minute Ackerley rounded two defenders to score an excellent angled goal from 15m.

Four minutes later Ackerley completed a fine hat

trick when he raced clear of the defence and beat the keeper with a low 12m drive.

Russo, Marconi's leading scorer, added another ten minutes later when he too raced clear of the defence and dribbled round the keeper to score.

Substitute Paul Cortez latched on to a loose ball in a crowded goalmouth but had no trouble adding the fifth eight minutes from time.

Ackerley capped off the brilliant performance scoring following a good ball from a corner with two minutes remaining.

MARCONI: James (Jones), Barro (Cortez), Bizotto, Agiasotis, Ortega, Budwee, Curco, Surjan, Russo, Ackerley, Loran (Budini).

Best Players: Chris Ackerley, Brett Budwee, Freddie Ortega.

MANLY: Beckitt, Reeve, Annan (Tomic), Thomas, Logan, Butler (Braun), Groaves, Glasscock, Willis, Ure, Wassell.

CANTERBURY 0
CROATIA 0

Croatia's title aspirations suffered a minor hitch at Arlington Oval on Sunday when the determined Berries held them to a 0-0 draw.

Apart from Croatia hitting the bar in the opening five minutes Canterbury tended to dominate proceedings.

Letters to the Editor

MELITA'S POSITION

MELITA Eagles are no doubt entitled to reply to the accusations published in your newspaper under the banner "Strife at Melita" on 19th May 1987.

We are indeed perturbed that such a respected Soccer publication would go to print without attempting to verify mischievous information.

1. At no time was there any attempt to attack the referee Roger Doneau. As a normal precaution 1 personally, with other officials of the club escorted the referees to their dressing rooms and later out of the ground. There was never any hint of an attack.

2. The elderly woman referred to did not suffer a heart attack. She fainted as a result of a known ailment. She was not taken to hospital.

3. The so called minor disturbance in the grandstand is a case of stretching the imagination. A Wollongong City supporter sat in the reserved seat area in the grandstand. When asked to sit elsewhere by the officials he refused in a very rude and offensive manner, hence police assistance was called to remove him. No panic, no disturbance, just lack of co-operation.

4. No one went over the perimeter and the player mentioned was certainly not punched. It is not possible at Melita Stadium to climb over the players raceway as this is completely covered and one of the best protected race ways in State League Soccer.

5. Policemen were at the ground at all times and apart from the above grandstand — provoked instance, were not required.

Croatia as a result slide to 6th but with a couple of matches in hand should move back into the five in the next few weeks.

CANTERBURY: Mihos, P. Giannopoulos, Dilas, Ikononopoulos, Kerry, Palapanis, Beris, Lampropoulos, Karavatsis, Benetis, Apostolidas.

Best Players: Ken Ikononopoulos, Nick Mihos, Con Kerry.

MARCONI 6 (C Ackerley 4, J Russo, P Cortez) MANLY 0, WARRINGAH 1 (J Reperti) URUGUAY 0, APIA 0 OLYMPIC 0, MELITA 1 (A Versi) SUTHERLAND 0, CANTERBURY 0 CROATIA 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APIA	9	5	3	1	24	5	13
St George	8	5	2	1	23	6	12
Olympic	6	5	1	0	15	3	11
Marconi	9	5	0	4	22	16	10
Melita	8	5	0	3	12	14	10
Croatia	6	4	1	1	22	7	9
Manly	8	3	2	3	14	22	8
Sutherland	7	1	1	5	9	16	3
Canterbury	8	1	1	6	4	21	3
Warringah	7	1	0	6	4	27	2
Uruguay	6	0	1	5	3	15	1

LEADING SCORERS:

8: Adrian Ciscato (Croatia), Joe Russo (Marconi), 7: Zoran Ilic (St George), Tony Krslovic (Croatia), 6: Steve Klinkacovski (Melita), 5: Tony Parison (APIA), Lou Dounis (APIA), Chris Ackerley (Marconi).

NEXT WEEK'S MATCHES:

THURS 28/5/87
Sydney Olympic v Warringah Pratten Park 7.30pm.

SUN 31/5/87
Uruguay v Canterbury Cook Park 10.40am; Croatia v St George Croatia Sports 12.15pm; Manly v Melita Cromer Park 10.40am; Olympic v Marconi St George Stadium 12.15pm.

C'WEALTH BANK CUP

RON CORRY AS THE REFEREE

FORMER international great Ron Corry refereed the third round clash between Bankstown Boys High and Sefton High at Kinch Reserve at Condell Park.

Sefton started strongly with a hard running, direct style but it wasn't long before the more subtle short passing game of Bankstown made inroads into the Sefton defence.

The deadlock was broken after 15 minutes when Bankstown centre forward Corapovski made the most of a confused situation to strike one past the Sefton keeper from 20 metres.

The traditional brawn verses brain class was twice more punctuated in the first half with Bankstown goals.

The first of left winger Mousidis' goals laid on by Exis and Corapovski.

The second another Corapovski goal this time finishing off some fine lead up by Chatzidis and Bexis with a header at the far post.

Sefton never gave up trying but in the second half Bankstown struck again through a Mousidis rocket to finish the scoring at 4-0.

The game was played in fine, competitive spirit.

The referee, Mr Corry, had his love for the game tested with a torrential shower just before halftime.

But the little man as always was there at the end ready to fight another day.

Bankstown's next game is against the formidable Cabramatta combination of whom great things are expected this year.

— JOHN DOYLE

SCHOOLS

THE First Round of the Central Coast area of The 'Oak' Bill Turner Cup has just been completed.

Gorokan had an easy win over Wyong, Henry Kendall had a comfortable win over Central Coast Grammar as did Gosford over Terrigal.

The Entrance v Northlakes game was a close affair but The Entrance just edged Northlakes out 2-1. The other First Round winner was St Edwards, who defeated Mater Dei 2-0.

It's still early to predict a zone winner but, on paper, Umina certainly look to be the team to beat.

Players of the calibre of Andrew French, Phillip Rayner, Craig Page and Neil Burgess certainly make them a formidable combination and should see them through to the next stage.

However, Gosford with David Berry at the helm will make sure Umina do not have it all their own way.

In Round Two Umina meet Erina, Gosford play St Edwards, The Entrance play Woy Woy and the match of the Round should be the Gorokan v Henry Kendall clash.

RESULTS: ROUND 1

CENTRAL COAST
Gorokan 9 d Wyong 0, Henry Kendall (Gosford) 7 d Central Coast Grammar 0, Gosford 6 d Terrigal 1, St Edwards (Gosford) 2 d Mater Dei (Gosford) 0, The Entrance 2 d Northlakes 1.

WESTERN NSW
Oberon 4 d De La Salle 0, Molong 6 d Gulgong 1, Narramine 2 d Warrumbungle 0, Nyngan 3 d Cobar 1, Forbes 15 d West Wyalong 0.

NORTH WEST
Narrabri 4 d Moree 1, Manilla 2, Gunnedah 1, Tamworth 3 d Peel 1, Tamworth Rosary 2 d Oxley 1.

RE-ENTRY OF SOUTHERN & EASTERN S.F.A.

This season the Southern & Eastern S.F.A. re-entered the metropolitan representative scene with U/11 & U/12 teams.

To partially offset the costs involved the Association will stage an U/10 Gala Day involving some of the best teams in the age group at Astrolable Park, Daceyville on Sunday, 7th June, 1987. 16 teams will be involved in a Round Robin format.

For further information clubs can contact: Tom Guth (vice president — juniors) on

300 0463



The NSW Amateur Federation

The NSW Amateur's are proud to present this page

RUSHY'S CORNER

ADRIATIC YOUTH LEAGUE

The battle for semi final positions is on in deadly earnest in these fine competitions.

In the U13 Div A competition APIA appear fairly safe, with seven teams all in with a chance for the last 3 spots, although Gladesville and St George will need to pick off the top teams to give themselves a chance of making it.

RUSHY'S TIPS: APIA, OLYMPIC, MARCONI AND GLADESVILLE HORNSBY.

In Div B Canterbury are playing good football and deserve their lead. However they will need to keep an eye on those teams pushing for final four positions and some upsets look likely.

RUSHY'S TIPS: CANTERBURY, CROATIA, SUTHERLAND AND POLONIA with Manly, Blacktown and North Bankstown knocking on the door.

The U14 Div A competition is the tightest of all eight Youth League tables with almost every team capable of beating each other. In the long term the successful teams will be those with good team spirit. At the moment Illawarra look the best team although APIA, when they get their act together, will be difficult to stop.

RUSHY'S TIPS: ILLAWARRA, APIA, NEPEAN and in a photo finish either Blacktown City, Southern Districts or St George. To join them in the semi finals from Div B, Sydney Croatia look unstoppable with Bankstown, Macarthur and Sutherland making up the four. At this stage Canterbury appear to be the only team with a chance of squeezing in.

RUSHY'S TIPS: CROATIA, BANKSTOWN, MACARTHUR AND SUTHERLAND.

Surely Olympic have become the immovable object at the top of the U15 Div A table, especially with likely new signing David Seale from Marconi and brilliant sweeper Greg Erickson soon to make an appearance after a serious thigh injury. The battle for the final three positions will be interesting with Sydney City and APIA likely to take two and the fourth being up for grabs by Marconi, St George and Melita.

RUSHY'S TIPS: OLYMPIC, SYDNEY CITY, APIA AND MARCONI to just hold on.

The U15 Bs is shaping up as one of the best battles for the coveted pole position with Croatia and Blacktown having drawn earlier clash. The final two positions will be fought for by Avala, Polonia and Canterbury.

RUSHY'S TIPS: BLACKTOWN, CROATIA, AVALA AND CANTERBURY.

Marconi have their work cut out in the U16s having yet to play Blacktown City; St George and Olympic although they showed good form in sweeping aside APIA 3-0 last weekend.

Blacktown City are a tough well disciplined side and should finish first although the coach Kenny Schembri tells me have a tough schedule over the next month. St George could be Blacktown's biggest hurdle and I am sure they will be up there at the end.

RUSHY'S TIPS: BLACKTOWN CITY, ST GEORGE, OLYMPIC AND APIA with Central Coast and Marconi the main threats in a very tight finish.

Croatia and Macarthur seem fairly safe in the U16 B competition however I suspect Sutherland will come out on top with North Bankstown, Rockdale and Blacktown fighting for the final position.

RUSHY'S TIPS: SUTHERLAND, CROATIA, MACARTHUR AND NORTH BANKSTOWN.

Every point will be vital in this year's Div A Club Championship. After 12 interrupted rounds of these clubs at the time of writing have played 44 games. However Marconi in fourth position have only played 41 while St George in fifth have played 46.

At the other end of the scale staring relegation in the face is Gladesville Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai although the rumours from Gladesville are they have a few cards up their sleeves and expect a much improved 2nd round.

In Div B Sydney Croatia can look forward to playing next season in Div 1 while Macarthur, Blacktown, Canterbury, Sutherland and Polonia are engaged in a huge tussle to decide who will accompany Croatia.

RUSHY'S TIPS: DIV A CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP — SYDNEY OLYMPIC

RUNNERS UP — APIA

RELEGATED — SYDNEY CITY & KU-RING-GAI

PROMOTION — CROATIA & SUTHERLAND

Having put the knocker on those teams I have tipped I shall leave it to you the players and coaches to prove me wrong — or right for that matter.

ONLY RUMOURS!!!

Marconi U15's had only seven players available on Sunday 17th May, hence the reason for cancellation of games.

Many U16 coaches are disappointed with the selection of the Australian U16 World Cup team. (It will be interesting to see the results that are achieved).

A prominent Youth League club has an ex-Socceroo goalkeeper in its employ, but it is said that he does not train goalkeepers. Gladesville Hornsby's

U14 team plan on staying up till 3am every night before a game. The team spent the weekend away together in a country hideaway and watched the FA Cup final. They then came out on Sunday to record their first win of the season by downing Melita 1-0.

GET WELL SOON!

Best wishes to Justin Bale, who was stuck by lightning during a training match on Thursday 14th May at Manly. Justin is still in a serious condition in Royal North Shore Hospital.

DEMONS DEVELOP AUSTRALIAN YOUTH

BLACKTOWN City Soccer Club has, in conjunction with Granville Districts Soccer Football Association, combined its expertise and resources to bring about a more united effort in the development of Soccer in the area.

As well as that, the club has undertaken a definite three year plan to ensure that, as a District Club, it is seen to be giving every opportunity to local youth to successfully progress to senior football.

In line with this Blacktown has appointed the National Youth Coach, Les Scheinflug to be involved full time for three years to implement and carry out the program that has been set up.

In addition Allan Maher, the former Socceroo goalkeeper, has been appointed as Youth Director of Coaching for the four NSW Youth League teams.

Brian Williamson was

appointed club goalkeeper coach, and will conduct special sessions for the youth keepers as well as the Granville District Metropolitan Championship U11 and U12 keepers.

The Youth League efforts are administered through a committee of four, David Baird and Greg Gingell (Blacktown), with Brian Grant and Bob Milligan (Granville).

Team management personnel are as follows:

U13: Coach, John Casserly, Manager, Marie Milligan. U14: Coach, Allan Maher, Manager, Brian Crews. U15: Coach, Jim

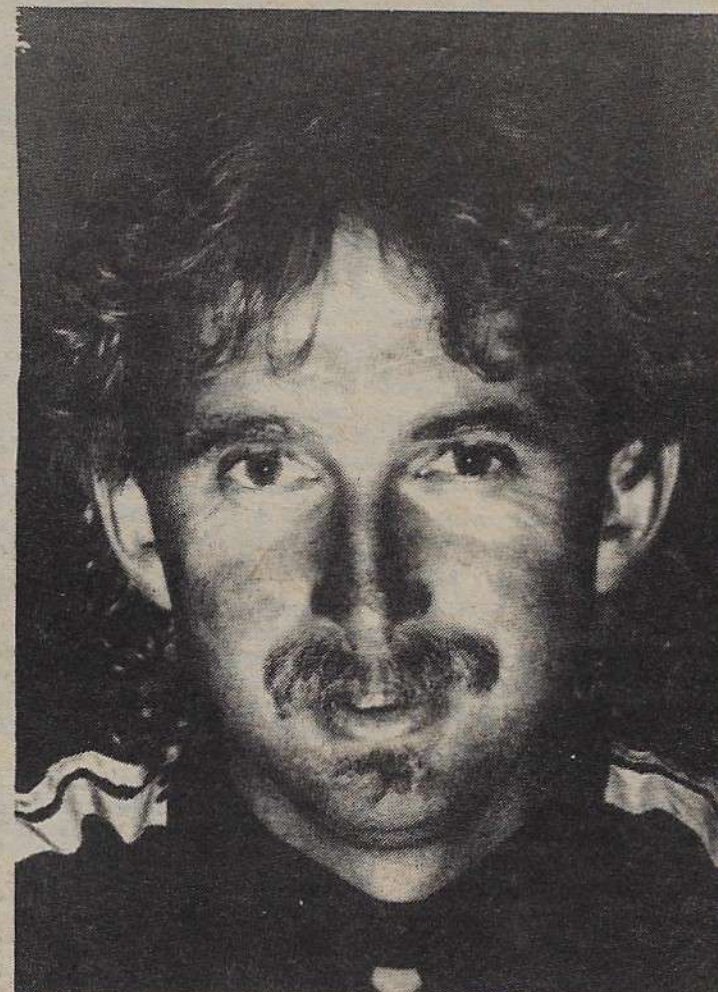
Geppert, Manager, Graham Bradley. U16: Coach, Ken Schembri, Manager, Terry Ide.

A major breakthrough this year has been the appointment of Ms Janene Mar as the Youth Sports Trainer.

Janene holds the Level II qualification and attends all games and training sessions.

Blacktown players are being encouraged to:

- take responsibility for their fitness levels
- communicate with the trainer when injuries occur
- follow a planned course leading to resumption of competitive play with a minimum of delay.



ALLAN MAHER... former Socceroo goalkeeper.

ADRIATIC YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 14 SATURDAY 30TH MAY

GROUP A

Ku-ring-gai	v	Marconi	Golden Jubilee
Sydney Olympic	v	Central Coast	Pratten Park
Gladesville	v	Nepean	Gabbie Stad.
Sydney City	v	APIA	Pioneer Park
Stn Districts	v	St George	Syd Athletic
Cant/Marrick	v	Melita	Ernie Smith
	v	Illawarra	Arington Oval

GROUP B

Sutherland	v	Yugal	Bates Drive
Macarthur	v	C/town City	Ponderosa Park
Polonia	v	Manly	Chopin Park
Uruguay/Pen.	v	Nth Bankstown	Mona Park
Bankstown	v	Avala	Memorial Oval
Rockdale	v	Croatia	Tempe Res.
Blacktown	v	Canterbury	Mt Druitt Tn.

NSW Youth League ROUND 13

SATURDAY 23RD MAY

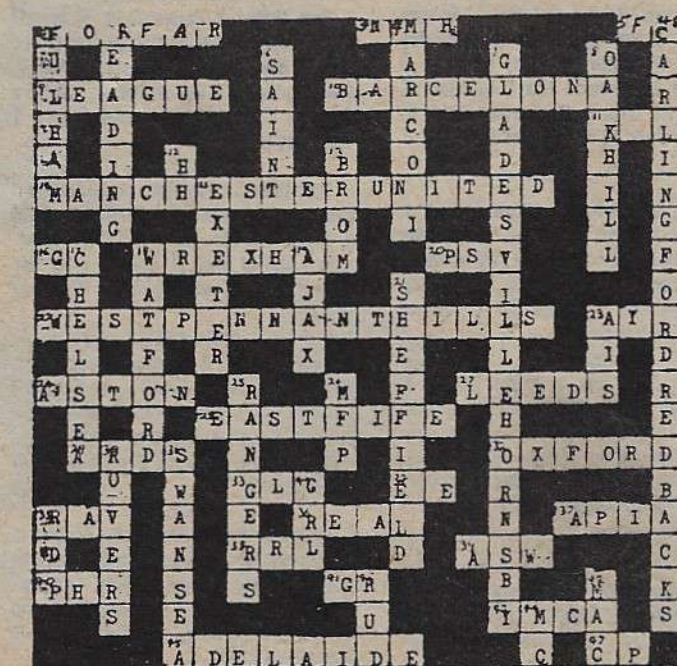
GROUP A

		U13	U14	U15	U16	
Sydney Olympic	v	Marconi	1-1	0-0	0-1	0-1
Central Coast	v	Blacktown City	1-1	1-2	1-0	0-1
Nepean	v	Apia	0-2	2-5	0-2	0-4
St. George	v	Gladesville	3-2	5-1	2-2	2-1
Melita	v	Sydney City	6-0	8-0	1-0	1-0
Cant/Marrick	v	Ku-ring-Gai	2-2	1-3	1-0	1-0
Illawarra	v	Southern Dists	1-0	1-3	3-0	1-2

GROUP B

Sutherland	v	Macarthur	6-2	2-0	1-1	1-0
Manly	v	C/town City	2-0	1-0	1-2	2-0
Nth Bankstown	v	Polonia	1-1	4-0	1-4	1-1
Uruguay/Pen.	v	Avala	0-2	2-1	0-0	2-3
Croatia	v	Bankstown	3-1	4-1	5-2	15-0
Rockdale	v	Blacktown	1-4	0-1	2-4	2-2
Canterbury	v	Yugal	4-2	2-1	7-0	1-2

SOLUTION TO MAY 19 PUZZLE



VICTORIA

MAY 16/17

PROV 1

STATE LEAGUE

FIRST

Norhtcote City 0 Green Gully 3.
Maribyrnong 0 Broadmeadows 7.
Western Suburbs 0 Frankston Pines 1.
Springvale City 3 Oakleigh 2.
Thomastown 1 Croydon City 1.
Maribyrnong 0 St Albans 0.
Box Hill 1 Fawkner 2.
Bye Caulfield City.

RESERVES

Norhtcote City 1 Green Gully 1.
Maribyrnong 5 Broadmeadows 7.
Western Suburbs 3 Frankston Pines 2.
Springvale City 4 Oakleigh 0.
Thomastown 1 Croydon City 2.
Maribyrnong 0 St Albans 1.
Box Hill 2 Fawkner 2.
Bye Caulfield City.

VIC 1

Sm Mordialloc 0 Albion Rovers 1.
Sunbury Utd 1 Richmond 1.
Werribee 4 Melbourne 0.
Bulleen 1 Nunawading City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1 Ringwood City 2.
Knox City 3 Essendon City 1.
Altona Gate 2 Doncaster Rvs 0.

RESERVES

Sm Mordialloc 5 Albion 1.
Sunbury Utd 7 Richmond 0.
Werribee 0 Melbourne 4.
Bulleen 3 Frankston Pines 2.
Nth Dandenong 2 Ringwood City 3.
Knox City 2 Essendon City 2.
Altona Gate 2 Doncaster Rvs 1.

VIC 2

Prahran City 1 Nth Geelong 1.
Ringwood United 2 Mornington 2.
Sandringham 1 Westgate 0.
Hamlyn Rgrs 1 Doveton 1.
Dandenong City 2 Mooroolbark 1.
Waverley City 4 Eltham 0.
Altona City 1 Clifton Hill 3.

RESERVES

Prahran City 1 Nth Geelong 3.
Ringwood United 4 Mornington 0.
Sandringham 2 Westgate 1.
Hamlyn Rgrs 7 Doveton 0.
Dandenong City 3 Mooroolbark 0.
Waverley City 2 Eltham 0.
Altona City 0 Clifton Hill 2.

VIC 3

Yarraville 3 Springvale Utd 4.
West Brunswick 3 Rosanna 1.
Yallourn 0 Moorabbin City 0.
F.T. Gully 1 Corio/Geelong 1.
Bell Park 1 Geelong 0.
Clarendon 1 Moreland Pk Rgr 1.
Port Melbourne 1.

RESERVES

Yarraville Springvale Utd. West Brunswick 3 Rosanna 2.
Yallourn 1 Moorabbin City 0.
F.T. Gully 1 Corio/Geelong 1.
Bell Park 1 Geelong 0.
Clarendon 1 Moreland Pk Rgr 2.
Port Melbourne 0.

VIC 4

Williamstown 2 Prahran 0.
Pascoe Vale 0 Laor Utd 1.
Seaford Utd 1 Hawthorn 2.
East Brunswick 7 Langwarrin 3.
Karingal Utd 0 Keysborough 2.
Boronia 5 Holland Park 1.
Coburg 1 Diamond Vly Utd 8.

RESERVES

Williamstown 2 Prahran 3.
Pascoe Vale 0 Laor Utd 2.
Seaford Utd 0 Hawthorn 1.
East Brunswick 7 Langwarrin 2.
Karingal Utd 3 Keysborough 0.
Boronia 0 Holland Park 1.
Coburg 1 Diamond Vly Utd 8.

FIRST

Nth Sunshine 0 Malvern City 0.
Melton 2 Ivanhoe City 1.
Regent 2 Central City 0.
Ardeer 0 Greensborough 0.
Ballarat 2 East Preston 1.
Brighton 1 East Geelong 0.
Chelsea 1 Clayton 1.

RESERVES

Nth Sunshine 2 Malvern City 0.
Melton 0 Ivanhoe City 2.
Regent 1 Central City 1.
Ardeer 5 Greensborough 1.
Ballarat 9 East Preston 4.
Brighton 4 East Geelong 1.
Chelsea 2 Clayton 13.

PROV 2

Wantirna 0 Ascot Vale 2.
Westmeadows 0 Mossfield 0.
Sth Yarra 1 Dingley Utd 1.
Batman Utd 1 Monbulk 0.
Forest Hill 0 Brunswick City 2.
Berwick City 3 Monish Utd 0.
Cranbourne 2 Glenroy 2.

RESERVES

Wantirna 2 Ascot Vale 3.
Westmeadows 2 Mossfield 0.
Sth Yarra 3 Dingley Utd 5.
Batman Utd 0 Monbulk 2.
Forest Hill 0 Brunswick City 2.
Berwick City 1 Monish Utd 0.
Cranbourne 2 Glenroy 2.

FIRST

Ringwood Rovers 2 Laor 1.
Spr'vale Condor 0 South Sp'vale 0.
Waverley Utd 5 Parkmore 1.
Uni of Melb 0 Mitcham Utd 0.
Burwood Utd 1 St Kilda 2.
Northern Utd 3 Richmond Utd 5.
Meadow Park 2 Port United 0.

RESERVES

Ringwood Rovers 0 Laor 3.
Sp'vale Condors 5 Sth Springvale 0.
Waverley Utd 13 Parkmore 0.
Uni of Melb 4 Mitcham 2.
Burwood Utd 1 St Kilda 3.
Northern Utd 6 Richmond Utd 5.
Meadow Park 10 Port United 0.

PROV 4

Ascot St Marks 1 Altona United 1.
Brintons 2 West United 0.
Kensington Utd 2 Mulgrave Ascom 1.
Balacava 1 Skye Rovers 1.
Carrum Utd 2 Riverdale 0.
Fitzroy City 1 Eagles Utd 2.
Debnay Park 1 Lyndale Utd 2.

RESERVES

Ascot St Marks 3 Altona United 1.
Brintons 5 West United 4.
Kensington Utd 6 Mulgrave Ascom 1.
Balacava 1 Skye Rovers 4.
Carrum Utd 0 Riverdale 1.
Fitzroy City 1 Eagles Utd 2.
Debnay Park 2 Lyndale Utd 2.

AMAT 1

Norhtcote City 1 Phillip Inst 5.
Epping Thistle 2.
Latrobe Uni 1.
Melbourne Uni 1.
Hawthorn Utd 1.
Collingwood Cy 1.
Diggers Rest 4.
En-

deavour Hills 0.
Balwyn City 4.
East Altona 4.
Waverley Wdrs 7.
Diamond Valley 1.

RESERVES

Norhtcote City 1.
Phillip Inst 3.
Epping Thistle 1.
Latrobe Uni 3.
Melbourne Uni 0.
Hawthorn Utd 4.
Collingwood Cy 2.
Diggers Rest 0.
En-

AMAT 2

Keilor United 3.
Old Scotch 0.
Yarra United 6.
Oakleigh United 1.
Inter City 2.
Rmit 4.
East Richmond 2.
Old Paradians 2.
Upfield 2.
Anstey United 3.
Camberwell Gmr 4.
Concorde 3.

RESERVES

Keilor United 6.
Old Scotch 1.
Yarra United 7.
Oakleigh United 2.
Inter City 1.
Rmit 5.
Old Paradians 2.
Upfield 1.
Anstey United 2.
Camberwell Gmr 3.
Concorde 0.

VICTORIA

STATE LEAGUE FIRST

Caulfield City 5.
Western Suburbs 1.
St Albans 2.
Morwell Falcons 1.
Oakleigh 0.
Northcote City 2.
Frankston Pines 1.
Box Hill 3.
Green Gully 1.
Fawkner 1.
Maribyrnong 2.
Broadmeadows 1.
Thomastown 1.
Croydon City 2.
Springvale City 2.

RESERVES

Caulfield City 6.
Western Suburbs 3.
St Albans 1.
Morwell Falcons 3.
Oakleigh 0.
Northcote City 2.
Frankston Pines 1.
Box Hill 5.
Green Gully 1.
Fawkner 0.
Maribyrnong 3.
Broadmeadows 2.
Thomastown 3.
Croydon City 3.
Springvale City 2.

VIC 1 FIRST

Doncaster Rvs 1.
Melbourne 1.
Essendon City 2.
Altona Gate 0.
Ringwood City 2.
Knox City 0.
Nunawading City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.

RESERVES

Doncaster Rvs 2.
Melbourne 2.
Essendon City 1.
Altona Gate 1.
Ringwood City 1.
Knox City 0.
Nunawading City 1.
Nth Dandenong 3.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.
Nth Dandenong 1.
Ringwood City 0.

VIC 2 FIRST

Clifton Hill 3.
Westgate 2.
Eltham 2.
Altona City 1.
Mooroolbark 2.
Waverley City 1.
Doveton 2.
Dandenong City 1.
Mooroolbark 1.
Waverley City 1.
Doveton 2.
Dandenong City 1.
Mooroolbark 1.
Waverley City 1.
Doveton 2.

RESERVES

Clifton Hill 1.
Westgate 0.
Eltham 2.
Altona City 1.
Mooroolbark 3.
Waverley City 3.
Doveton 1.
Dandenong City 0.
Mooroolbark 3.
Waverley City 3.
Doveton 1.
Dandenong City 0.
Mooroolbark 3.
Waverley City 3.
Doveton 1.

VIC 3 FIRST

Port Melbourne 2.
Moorabbin City 1.
Clarendon 1.
Moreland Pk Rgr 1.
Geelong 0.
Koor 2.
Corio/Geelong 0.
Bell Park 2.
Rosanna 2.
F.T. Gully 0.
Springvale Utd 1.
West Brunswick 2.
Yallourn bye.

RESERVES

Port Melbourne 1.
Moorabbin City 2.
Clarendon 2.
Moreland Pk Rgr 2.
Geelong 0.
Koor 0.
Corio/Geelong 0.
Bell Park 0.
Rosanna 2.
F.T. Gully 1.
Springvale Utd 3.
West Brunswick 5.
Yallourn bye.

VIC 4 FIRST

Diamond Vly Utd 1.
Hawthorn 1.
Holland Park 3.
Coburg 3.
Keysborough 1.
Boronia 1.
Langwarrin 2.
Karingal Utd 2.
Laor Utd 2.
East Brunswick 0.
Prahran 1.
Pascoe Vale 0.
Williamstown 3.
Seaford Utd 1.

RESERVES

Diamond Vly Utd 4.
Hawthorn 0.
Holland Park 2.
Coburg 1.
Keysborough 0.
Boronia 0.
Langwarrin 1.
Karingal Utd 1.
Laor Utd 9.
East Brunswick 0.
Prahran 2.
Pascoe Vale 1.
Williamstown 3.
Seaford Utd 0.

PROV 1 FIRST

Clayton 2.
Central City 0.
East Geelong 1.
Chelsea 1.
East Preston 1.
Brighton 2.
Greensborough 1.
Ballarat 0.
Ivanhoe City 2.
Sth Yarra 2.
Ardeer 2.
Regent 1.
Nth Dandenong 2.
Doveton 2.
Dandenong City 2.
Mooroolbark 1.
Waverley City 2.
Eltham 1.
Altona City 1.
Hamlyn Rgrs 1.
Ringwood Utd 1.
Karingal Utd 1.
Laor Utd 9.
East Brunswick 0.
Prahran 2.
Pascoe Vale 1.
Williamstown 3.
Seaford Utd 0.

PROV 2 FIRST

Glenroy 2.
Dingley Utd 0.
Monash Uni 1.
Cranbourne 1.
Brunswick City 1.
Berwick City 1.
Monbulk 2.
Forest Hill 1.
Mossfield 4.
Batman Utd 0.
Ascot Vale 1.
Westmeadows 1.
Wantirna 1.
Sth Yarra 4.

RESERVES

Glenroy 5.
Dingley Utd 1.
Monash Uni 1.
Cranbourne 1.
Brunswick City 4.
Berwick City 2.
Monbulk 4.
Forest Hill 1.
Mossfield 4.
Batman Utd 1.
Ascot Vale 1.
Westmeadows 7.
Wantirna 2.
Sth Yarra 2.

PROV 3 FIRST

Port United 1.
Parkmore 3.
Richmond Utd 1.
Meadow Park 1.
St Kilda 1.
Northern Utd 1.
Mitcham Utd 0.
Burwood Utd 2.
South Sp'vale 0.
Uni of Melb 2.
Laor 2.
v Sp'vale Condor 1.
Ringwood Rovers 1.
Waverley Utd 1.

RESERVES

Port United 0.
Parkmore 3.
Richmond Utd 1.
Meadow Park 4.
St Kilda 9.
Northern Utd 3.
Mitcham Utd 1.
Sth Springvale 1.
Uni of Melb 3.
Laor 0.
v Sp'vale Condors 1.
Ringwood Rovers 0.
Waverley Utd 3.

PROV 4 FIRST

Lyndale Utd 2.
Debnay Park 0.
Riverdale 2.
Fitzroy City 2.
Skye Rovers 0.
Carrum Utd 1.
West United 3.
Balacava 1.
Altona United 1.
Brintons 2.
Ascot St Marks 2.
Kensington Utd 3.

RESERVES

Lyndale Utd 4.
Debnay Park 0.
Riverdale 1.
Fitzroy City 2.
Skye Rovers 7.
Carrum Utd 1.
West United 3.
Balacava 0.
Altona United 1.
Brintons 5.
Ascot St Marks 5.
Kensington Utd 2.

AMAT 1 FIRST

Diamond Valley 2.
Collingwood Cy 1.
East Altona 0.
Waverley Wdrs 1.
En-deavour Hills 2.
Balwyn City 3.
Melbourne Uni 1.
Diggers Rest 1.
Epping Thistle 2.
Latrobe Uni 1.
Melbourne Uni 0.
Hawthorn Utd 4.
Collingwood Cy 2.
Diggers Rest 0.
En-

RESERVES

Diamond Valley 2.
Collingwood Cy 3.
East Altona 3.
Waverley Wdrs 3.
En-deavour Hills 1.
Balwyn City 0.
Melbourne Uni 0.
Diggers Rest 2.
Epping Thistle 1.
Latrobe Uni 2.
Melbourne Uni 0.
Hawthorn Utd 4.
Collingwood Cy 2.
Diggers Rest 0.
En-

AMAT 2 FIRST

Concorde 1.
East Richmond 0.
Anstey United 2.
Camberwell Gmr 3.
Bye v Upfield 1.
Bye v Old Paradians 0.
Oakleigh United 2.
Inter City 3.
Old Scotch 0.
Yarra United 2.
Keilor United 8.
Rmit 1.

RESERVES

Concorde 1.
East Richmond 0.
Anstey United 2.
Camberwell Gmr 1.
Bye v Upfield 1.
Bye v Old Paradians 0.
Oakleigh United 2.
Inter City 3.
Old Scotch 1.
Yarra United 0.
Keilor United 8.
Rmit 1.

NYL 1

Melb. Croatia 1.
Oakleigh 1.
Sunshine G.X. 4.
Caulfield 2.
Preston 2.
Heidelberg Utd 2.
South Melbourne 3.
Brighton bye.
Nunawading City 0.
Waverley City 1.
Footscray 1.
Brunswick U.J. 4.

STATE LEAGUE RESERVES

Maribyrnong 12.
8 2 2 32 12 18
St Albans 11.
7 1 3 31 23 15
Croydon City 11.
5 4 2 22 16 14
Fawkner 11.
6 2 3 26 21 14
Morwell Falcons 10.
5 2 3 22 12 12
Thomastown 11.
5 2 4 16 15 12
Northcote City 11.
3 5 3 24 22 11
Green Gully 11.
4 3 4 17 15 11
Box Hill 12.
3 5 4 17 19 11
Broadmeadows 10.
5 0 5 23 20 10
Springvale City 11.
4 1 6 19 21 9
Western Suburbs 12.
4 1 7 33 40 9
Frankston Pines 11.
4 1 6 22 33 9
Caulfield City 11.
3 0 8 24 40 6
Oakleigh 11.
1 3 7 18 37 5

VIC ONE

Sunbury Utd 9.
7 1 1 17 6 15
Bulleen 9.
6 2 1 15 4 12
Ringwood City 9.
6 0 3 14 7 12
Essendon City 9.
4 4 1 15 10 12
Altona Gate 8.
5 1 2 18 6 11
Werribee 8.
4 3 1 8 2 11
Albion Rovers 8.
4 1 3 10 6 9
Nth Dandenong 9.
4 1 4 10 7 9
Knox City 9.
4 1 4 15 14 9
Richmond 8.
1 6 1 9 8 8
SM Mordialloc 8.
1 2 5 6 17 4
Doncaster Rvs 9.
1 1 7 6 23 3
Nunawading City 8.
0 2 6 4 12 2
Melbourne 9.
0 1 8 2 26 1

RESERVES

Essendon City 9.
5 3 1 16 9 13
Bulleen 9.
6 2 2 19 14 13
Altona Gate 9.
5 2 2 15 10 12
SM Mordialloc 9.
4 3 2 24 11 11
Doncaster Rvs 9.
4 3 2 19 12 11
Nunawading City 9.
5 0 4 23 18 10
Ringwood City 9.
3 3 3 18 10 9
Knox City 9.
4 1 4 12 15 9
Nth Dandenong 9.
3 2 4 18 21 8
Sunbury Utd 9.
3 2 4 13 10 8
Werribee 9.
3 0 6 16 17 6
Albion 9.
1 7 7 6 9 3
Melbourne 9.
0 2 7 10 49 2

VIC TWO

Clifton Hill 9.
6 1 2 24 11 13
Prahran City 9.
4 4 1 24 12 12
Dandenong City 9.
5 2 2 15 11 12
Mooroolbark 9.
5 1 3 22 11 11
Westgate 9.
5 1 3 17 14 11
Sandringham 9.
4 3 2 9 7 11
Dandenong City 9.
4 2 3 14 15 10
Nth Geelong 9.
3 3 3 12 9 9
Doveton 9.
3 3 3 12 10 9
Waverley City 9.
3 2 4 11 18 6
Eltham 9.
2 2 5 13 16 6
Altona City 9.
1 4 4 9 18 6
Hamlyn Rgrs 9.
1 3 5 9 15 5
Ringwood Utd 9.
1 1 7 7 31 3

RESERVES

Clifton Hill 9.
8 0 1 33 5 16
Mooroolbark 9.
7 1 1 20 4 15
Eltham 9.
6 1 1 23 10 13
Waverley City 9.
5 3 1 22 12 13
Doveton 9.
7 5 1 29 7 11
Sandringham 9.
2 4 3 13 8 7
Dandenong City 8.
3 1 4 20 14 7
Nth Geelong 8.
3 3 3 8 9 7
Westgate 8.
3 0 5 18 14 6
Prahran City 8.
3 0 2 5 14 6
Altona City 8.
2 2 5 13 16 6
Hamlyn Rgrs 8.
1 3 4 7 16 5
Ringwood Utd 8.
7 2 4 7 16 5
Dandenong City 8.
1 2 5 3 12 4
Mornington 9.
0 0 9 3 69 0

VIC THREE

West Brunswick 9.
6 1 2 17 8 13
Keilor 9.
6 1 2 12 7 13
Springvale Utd 9.
6 1 2 18 15 13
Clarendon 9.
4 2 3 14 12 10
Rosanna 8.
4 1 3 16 13 9
Bell Park 8.
3 3 3 12 11 9
Port Melbourne 8.
4 0 4 9 9 8
Geelong 8.
3 1 4 14 14 7
Yarraville 8.
2 3 4 14 14 7
Corio/Geelong 8.
2 2 5 12 13 6
Moorabbin City 8.
1 4 3 7 8 6
Yallourn 8.
2 2 5 13 25 6
Moreland Pk Rgr 8.
2 1 6 10 17 5
F.T. Gully 9.

RESERVES

West Brunswick 9.
8 0 1 24 14 16
Yallourn 8.
6 1 1 26 5 13
Moorabbin City 9.
5 3 1 28 9 13
Clarendon 9.
4 2 3 28 19 13
Corio/Geelong 9.
4 2 3 10 10 10
Yarraville 7.
4 1 2 17 10 9
Springvale Utd 8.
4 1 3 16 19 9
Rosanna 9.
3 2 4 18 17 8
F.T. Gully 8.
2 3 3 16 21 7
Moreland Pk Rgr 9.
1 4 3 13 16 6
Keilor 8.
1 4 3 13 19 6
Bell Park 8.
0 4 4 2 24 4
Geelong 8.
1 1 6 2 22 3
Port Melbourne 7.
0 2 5 7 17 2

VIC FOUR

Laor Utd 9.
6 2 1 9 3 14
Williamstown 9.
5 3 1 17 11 13
Seaford Utd 9.
5 2 2 17 10 12
Keysborough 9.
4 3 2 18 13 11
Holland Park 9.
4 2 3 19 14 10
Hawthorn 9.
3 4 2 12 13 10
Pascoe Vale 9.
3 3 3 8 9 9
Coburg 9.
2 5 2 14 16 9

RESERVES

Laor Utd 9.
6 2 1 9 3 14
Williamstown 9.
5 3 1 17 11 13
Seaford Utd 9.
5 2 2 17 10 12
Keysborough 9.
4 3 2 18 13 11
Holland Park 9.
4 2 3 19 14 10
Hawthorn 9.
3 4 2 12 13 10
Pascoe Vale 9.
3 3 3 8 9 9
Coburg 9.
2 5 2 14 16 9

PROV ONE

Ardeer 8.
6 2 0 25 10 14
Nth Sunshine 9.
6 2 1 15 7 14
Greensborough 9.
5 3 1 16 6 13
Chelsea 9.
4 3 2 17 12 11
Melton 9.
5 0 4 17 16 10
Regent 9.
3 3 3 12 10 9
Clayton 9.
3 3 3 19 18 9
Malvern City 9.
2 5 2 10 9 9
Ballarat 9.
3 2 4 12 16 8
Ballarat 9.
4 0 5 12 24 8
Ivanhoe City 9.
2 3 4 11 13 7
Brighton 9.
3 0 6 10 14 6
Central City 9.
0 4 4 8 15 4
East Preston 9.
0 2 7 6 20 2

RESERVES

Nth Sunshine 9.
7 0 2 29 11 14
Malvern City 9.
7 0 2 22 7 14
Ivanhoe City 9.
6 0 3 31 12 12
Clayton 9.
6 0 3 31 12 12
Ballarat 9.
5 1 3 19

NORTH HOLDS LIONS AT BAY

QUEENSLAND

BY GREG RUSSELL

THE Queensland XXXX League Premiership race has been thrown wide open after North Star inflicted the second defeat of the season on Lions last weekend.

The former NSL side, who were 15th in the NSL criteria list last year, were rated hot favourites to win the Queensland competition and advance to the NSL promotion play-offs against the Victorian and South Australian champions later this year.

But the Richlands club now finds themselves in third place three points behind leaders North Star although they have a game in hand.

North Star already have stated they want to try their fortune in the national competition and their clash against Lions was billed as a true test of their aim.

The club put on a huge promotion and were rewarded with the largest club crowd of the season. And the home team certainly didn't let down their supporters with a fighting performance.

Indeed it was North Star's stronger desire to win and hungrier attitude on the park which earned them, deservedly, the two points.

And Lions have only themselves to blame for returning home pointless. Former Socceroo Alan Niven missed a last minute penalty which would have given Lions a draw.

But that perhaps would have been an unfair result on the commitment shown by Iain Fagan's team. North Star took an early lead when a well-worked move involving new signing Phil Mulvey allowed Ross Swan to break a flat Lions defence and drive a hard shot into the net.

North Star held the lead to the break but 10 minutes into the second half Russell Stewart put Lions on level terms with a powerful 20m drive which gave North Star's Queensland keeper Dave Gallagher no chance.

From a free-kick 20 minutes later, Gerry Lindsay was to drive home a shot that sent the crowd wild and give North Star their victory.

While things were hot at the top of the table, they were bubbling at the other end with three lowly placed sides scoring good results in the round to tighten the battle against relegation.

Rosedale, who appointed Alan Hughes player-coach mid-week following the resignation of Eddie Spearritt, rallied to score a 3-2 win over previous leaders Easts.

Rosedale gave a spirited showing and even missed a

penalty which could have given them a well-deserved bigger winning margin.

Taringa Rovers also eased away from the bottom of the table with a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Ipswich United.

Taringa's winner came in the last minute when State squad member Mark Gilbert netted for his first of the season and what could turn out to be one of Taringa's most important goals of the year.

Last year's grand final and Ampol Cup winners Coalstars had their revival cut short when Brisbane City won 2-0 at Bundamba.

Coalstars, who had a horror start to the season, were undefeated in four games and looked like clawing their way back into the top half of the table.

But two costly defensive errors allowed City to net two goals inside the first 15 minutes and the home side could not come back after giving the visitors that kind of start.

Both goals were scored by City's Irish import Kieran Cooper, who now has six goals and is the competition's second leading scorer despite much publicity this season that he was going through a goal drought. Admittedly though, half his total has come from the penalty spot.

The other Sunday match was a fine point for last place Grange Thistle against Mount Gravatt at Dittmer Park. The draw enabled Thistle to climb above Redlands, who were drawn to play the Monday night game against Olympic United.

QUEENSLAND XXXX LEAGUE TO R9 SUNDAY MAY 24										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Nth Star	9	6	3	1	7	7	15			
East	9	6	1	2	19	13	13			
Lions	8	6	2	2	24	7	12			
Azzurri	9	5	2	2	19	11	12			
Mt Gravatt	7	3	2	2	16	12	8			
Ipswich Utd	9	2	4	3	13	11	8			
Coalstars	9	2	3	4	13	12	7			
Taringa R.	8	3	5	1	18	6	6			
Rosedale	8	2	2	4	14	24	6			
Olympic Utd	7	2	1	4	11	14	5			
Grange Thistle	8	3	5	2	13	3	3			
Redlands Utd	7	1	1	5	7	25	3			

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP										
North Star	34	22	6	6	63	34	50			
Easts	36	17	9	10	58	42	43			
Lions	34	18	5	11	69	36	41			
Grange	33	15	11	7	52	29	41			
Rosedale	33	11	11	11	48	54	33			
Azzurri	34	12	8	14	54	55	32			
Ipswich	36	11	10	15	39	51	32			
Taringa R.	32	12	6	14	64	61	30			
Olympic	31	10	7	14	48	55	27			
Redlands	29	10	4	15	39	70	24			
Mt Gravatt	30	7	9	14	38	64	23			
Coalstars	36	8	6	22	48	70	22			

NORTHERN NSW

BY DAVE WILLIAMS

ADAMSTOWN Rosebud's unbeaten record after four series of the Toohey's Northern NSW State First Division premiership is a clear indication that a third element has entered the race for the 1987 championship.

Belmont-Swansea United and West Wallsend were the dominating teams during the 1985 and 1986 seasons. But the resurgence of Rosebuds this year adds colour and new expectations to the contest for the First Division title.

Adamstown has had little major success over the past few years. But the return to the First Division of former National League players Sean Ingham, John McQuarrie and Neil Owens, the acquisition of the young Wallsend striker David Bock and the resumption of a former Adamstown

junior, Gavin McDonald, after spending a year at the Australian Institute of Sport, is beginning to change that.

And the talent available is being moulded into a very strong unit by player-coach Neville Power.

This is Power's second attachment to Rosebuds after a distinguished career with Highfields Azzurri and a promising, but brief stint with Newcastle in the National League before a broken ankle put him out of the game temporarily.



RUSSELL STEWART

THREE MATCH PROMOTION IN OAK TURNER CUP

BY BILL TURNER

THREE matches in the Newcastle-Hunter Area of the OAK Bill Turner Cup were held at Macquarie Field, Speers Point last week. Some 443 people were in the ground during the evening.

The first clash proved to be a boilover when the lads from Nelson Bay defeated their more fancied opponents Warners Bay 1-0.

Early in the match the game was even with some parts looking more like slow motion replays. G Pinkowski made the first real break in the game but his shot sailed over the Nelson Bay goals.

Next C Muncaster cut through some brittle defence forcing three corner kicks but somehow Nelson Bay hung on.

Warners A Johansson and Nelson Bays C Mitchell were the best for each side.

The cheer squad from Warners Bay gave some excellent routines at half time. This feature is becoming quite popular in Newcastle.

The second half saw Warners Bay still showing more zip and but from some smart defence from A Watson,

Nelson Bay would have been in real trouble.

Out of the blue Adrian Thompson had a runaway and with all the Warners Bay boys overcommitted he deftly lobbed the goalkeeper to give the Port Stephens side a 1-0 lead which the held to the end.

NELSON BAY 1 (Adrian Thompson) d WARNERS BAY 0. Referee Mr Ray Ashbourne.

RANDELL TOP GUN

Following his two goal feast against Ku-Ring-Gai Randell Easthorpe has moved ahead of the field in the race for the top goal scorer in 1987.

The following is the list of the top goal scorers in the NSW State Bank League.

8: Easthorpe (WC), 6: Reis (CG), Jeffery (K), Giraldo (WC), 5: Van Blerk, Kay, Reynolds (BC), S. Gonzales (CG), Calsley (M), McKie (UP), 4: Andromidas (CM), DeCeglie (WF), Cimarosti (MW), Callanan, Vial (ME), Penfold, N. Drysdale (N), Batten, Woods (UP).

Now, through Power's harnessing of the skills being provided by a mixture of youth and experience, Rosebuds are giving their supporters the kind of determined football that has been less evident over the past several seasons.

And, 16 goals in four games, is the basis on which Adamstown's premiership challenge has been launched.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

BEOGRAD PRESSES HELLAS

ALL the signals are at go for another cut-throat round in the SA Rothmans State League this week as teams fight for the title and a play-off place for the West End National League.

Adelaide Hellas, relegated last year, suffered a setback last Saturday when held 1-1 by Polonia, one of the challengers, who came from behind at home.

Hellas is now only one point in front of Beograd, who got back on the winning track when they beat second bottom Birkalla 1-0.

Points on the table now read: Hellas 16, Beograd 15, Salisbury 14, Polonia, Croatia 13, Para Hills, Campbelltown 12, Lion 8, Cumberland 5, Azzurri 4, Birkalla, Apac 3.

Hellas has to visit champions Campbelltown this weekend after the Red Devils could only draw 1-1 with Cumberland, promoted this year.

Polonia is home again against Azzurri, now off the lower strata following a 1-1 draw with another of the title favourites, Salisbury, who have slumped to third place after appearing to be the main challenger to Hellas.

Salisbury visit northern neighbour Para who sunk Apac 3-0.

The latter features in the relegation battle this week when it takes on Birkalla.

Croatia kept up their pressure on the leaders with a 2-0 win over Lion and will be at home against Cumberland.

While Hellas will again go in favourites against Campbelltown every game is like a Cup final, and it took them until the 58th minute to score against Polonia.

Youth Socceroo Lou Hristodoulou got the goal, but it was not enough as Steve Witwicki, the dynamic Polonia striker who must be heading for the National League somewhere, equalised in the 72nd minute and then it was Hellas who had to hold out.

One of their former National League players, midfielder David Doorne, led the home onslaught.

Campbelltown will offer similar resistance.

While not as smooth an outfit as last year they have players in striker Marcel Barmadregt, midfielder Steve Amos, another NSL player with Hellas and Brisbane Lions, plus forward Chris Key, who can do a lot of damage if they are in form.

With the 4-0 thrashing from Para the other week wiped out, Beograd, at home, are odds on for another two points against Lion.

And Beograd, like Hellas, have thoughts of the National League on their minds which gives their players that extra incentive.

Apart from Beograd's game none of the matches look clear cut.

Azzurri seems to have shaken off the shock of losing four points for fielding an ineligible player and while they won't win the title they could still finish in the top five and will give Polonia a fight on Saturday.

TASMANIA

BY WALTER PLESS

DEMOLITION WORK

OLYMPIA-WPL and White Eagles continued to set the pace at the top of the Cadbury State League competition in Southern Tasmania with mammoth wins over lowly opposition.

Olympia demolished Hobart City-Azzurri 10-1 in midweek while White Eagles annihilated Caledonians 11-1 at KGV Soccer Park on Saturday.

To emphasize the world of difference that exists between the leading four teams and the bottom four, fourth-placed Croatia-Glenorchy despatched last-placed Rapid 7-1.

But third-placed Juventus-Pioneer faltered allowing second-last side Howrah to snatch a last-minute 3-3 draw at KGV on Wednesday.

Olympia's all-round strength was illustrated by the fact that seven players got on the scoresheet against Hobart City.

Indeed, it wasn't until the final few minutes that the club's leading scorer centre-forward Paul Xanthopoulos struck twice to notch his first goals of the evening, amid tremendous celebrations by the Greek fans.

City had taken a surprise lead on the quarter hour through an exquisite goal by Kim Barker, but once Roger Munro equalised four minutes later, the floodgates were opened and Olympia stormed to an easy win.

Sergio Pace hit a hat-trick for Juventus but a persistent Howrah side would not give in and two goals by Jason Harvey and one from Ken Berry gave the Eastern

Shore outfit a commendable draw.

Brothers Richard and Andrew Leszczynski each scored five times as reigning champion, White Eagles, over-ran a very disappointing Caledonians side that clearly missed injured mid-field star Ian Parker.

Eagles, without regular fullback Sean Collins who was somewhere at sea on a Japanese fishing vessel, handled the wet and blustery conditions to perfection and led 6-1 at the break.

Collins would probably have been more comfortable at sea anyway, as a fierce storm struck the ground after halftime and, for the first time that I can recall, the floodlights had to be turned on for the second half.

It was all a bit like the conditions one sees on television at English League matches in mid-Winter.

Andrew Leszczynski had hit a hat-trick by the interval and, in addition to helping himself to two more goals in the second period, he unselfishly and cleverly set up three goals for his brother, Richard.

Calies did not help its own cause by scoring an own goal early in the match and conceding a penalty on the stroke of half-time.

John McIntyre notched a hat-trick in Croatia's 7-1 win over Rapid. John Fletcher gave Rapid an early lead but Willy Peters, playing only his first full game since coming out of a three-year retirement, equalised before the interval.

Croatia ran riot in the second half, scoring another half a dozen goals without reply.

Details: Olympia-WPL 10 (Xanthopoulos 2, Forster 2, Goldsmith 2, Morton, Munro, Nichols, Greenwood) Hobart City-Azzurri 1 (Barker), Howrah 3 (Harvey 2, Berry) Juventus-Pioneer 3 (Pace 3), Croatia-Glenorchy 7 (McIntyre 3, Peters, Huigsloot, Thomas, Furlan) Rapid 1 (Fletcher), White Eagles 11 (A. Leszczynski 5, R. Leszczynski 5, own goal) Caledonians 1 (Robins).

HUMILIATION FOR ADCITY

BY TOM MCKAIN

NATIONAL Soccer League champions Adelaide City, with a bye last Sunday, sent out some of their shock troops with the reserve team in the SA State League second division ... but they were humiliated.

Goalkeeper Willie McNally, forwards Joe Mullen, Paul Wilde and Lenny Vatsilas plus midfielder Andy Toland lined up against Seaford, who are second in the second division, and finished up on the wrong end of a 1-0 scoreline.

While City dominated the game it was Seaford who scored from a free kick.

"If you can't take your chances you don't deserve to win," said City coaching co-ordinator John Perin, the former NSL star and Socceroo who also coaches the reserve side.

"We have failed to score in our last three National League games and we can only hope the three week break coming up after next week's match against Sydney Croatia will help the players recover their composure."

Cadbury State League Standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympia-WPL	8	7	0	1	35	7	14
White Eagles	8	6	1	1	39	11	13
Juventus	8	6	1	1	29	16	13
Croatia	8	5	1	2	29	12	11
Hobart City-Azz	8	3	0	5	11	30	6
Caledonians	8	1	1	6	8	28	3
Howrah	8	1	1	6	9	31	3
Rapid	8	0	1	7	9	34	1

Leading Goalscorers: 16 R. Leszczynski (White Eagles); 14 S. Pace (Juventus-Pioneer); 12 P. Xanthopoulos (Olympia-WPL); 8 A. Leszczynski (White Eagles), J. McIntyre (Croatia-Glenorchy).

NSW WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

PUTNEY TOWN, who defeated Parramatta City 4-1, seem to be along the way towards the 1987 championship.

International Rose van Bruinessen is with the club this year, and amongst the other stars are Leigh Wardell, Janine Riddington, Carol Vincent, Lisa Faba and Margaret Young.

The forwards and midfield are playing particularly strongly.

Pagewood, after some early setbacks, certainly have regained their rhythm.

They managed a 3-1 win over Epping-Eastwood, following a 3-0 victory in reserve grade.

WOMEN: First Grade: Blacktown 3 b Manly 0, Putney Town 4 b Parramatta City 1, Pagewood 3 b Epping Eastwood 1. Res: Blacktown 7 b Manly 1, Putney Town 2 b Parramatta City 1, Pagewood 3 b Epping Eastwood 0.

IF Hellas don't make it back to the national league they could still be in a super league in SA.

The SA Soccer Federation is again proposing to clubs that they cut their 12-team Rothmans League First Division to eight 'super' teams in an effort to lift the standard and so attract more fans.



Fernando De Napoli



NAPOLI SAMPLE SWEET SUCCESS

IN many countries around the world it is said that football is the happiness of the people. The Neopolitans of Italy are currently confirming this following their first ever championship victory in Italy.

Immediately after their 1-1 draw with Fiorentina on the second last week of the league, pandemonium hit the region when it was learnt that the title was theirs.

Many live in expectation of such a momentous occasion but most only experience pain and frustration.

It was third time lucky for Napoli's Argentinian ace DIEGO MARADONA, having just completed his third "scudetto".

Maradona certainly brought experience and much-needed class to the San Paolo Stadium but it was no one-man band. Brilliant Italian internationals Salvatore Bagni, Bruno Giordano and Fernando De Napoli played as big a part as the

little South American.

In fact there was a space of a handful of games where Maradona was absent but Napoli continued on their merry way as if he wasn't even missing.

For Napoli this title held special significance as it has shot them into the front-line of world football.

Next season they will be Italy's representatives in the European Champions' Cup and already Maradona and company are claiming they will go close to taking it out.

Brazilian maestro CARECA has joined Napoli along with Diego's brother Hugo.

But hassles have already developed concerning his move from Sao Paolo to San Paolo!

The Brazilian club are all agog over receiving \$7.8 million from the Italians...

but there lies the snag. Napoli insist the agreement was for only \$2.3 million — a little difference you would say.

For Maradona the title win has even more significance as the Italian press have voted him the best South American to ever appear in the league, high praise indeed when you consider that the likes of Jaun Schiaffino, Jose Altafini and Omar Sivioli all played in Italy, the latter two with Napoli.

Napoli's season ended in a 1-1 draw away to Ascoli.

HOPES BREAKING FOR FC PORTO

PORTO's chances of becoming European Champions are quickly dwindling following the tragic loss of two of its own champions Fernando Gomes and Lima Periera, ironically both with broken legs!

It's a cruel blow as Periera was the first ruled out who was hurt three weeks ago in a league match then followed him into plaster last week during a training preparation for the final!

FA Cup post mortems...

HODDLE — ENIGMATIC TILL THE VERY LAST!

GLENN HODDLE did himself no favours with his performance in last weekend's FA Cup Final against Coventry City.

Although starting the game well enough for Tottenham, the England international did as he too often has in a long career with Spurs and just drifted out of the game.

Young Lloyd McGrath earned wide acclaim for the 'job' he did on the 30-year-

old, but really Hoddle did little to try and overcome the pressure set upon him.

It seems likely now that the deal with Dutch club PSV Eindhoven might well fall through and other clubs aren't exactly queuing up to get his signature although

he is desperate to make a move to the continent.

Italian and Spanish clubs alike showed no interest when Hoddle made his intentions to move clear and only crack French side Paris St. Germain seem ready to make his dream a reality.



MABBUTT — NOT SO LUCKY

GARY MABBUTT must have thought the world had fallen in on him when he conceded the own goal that defeated his side Tottenham Hotspur in the FA Cup Final against Coventry City.

Things were going along brilliantly for the talented central defender before Lloyd McGrath made that burst down the right flank and whipped in the cross that ricocheted off Mabbutt's leg, over Ray Clemence and into the net.

He was having a great

game. Apart from that unlucky moment he had a great game.

His goal, which in the long run may well go down to Brian Kilcline of Coventry as an own goal, gave Spurs a 2-1 lead and his tackling was extraordinary. Hard, crisp and fair.

But nothing is worse than inadvertently knocking in the winner.

If that wasn't bad enough, Mabbutt was looking forward rather keenly to taking part in the Sir Stanley Rous Cup match against the touring Brazil for England but

received the awful news from his club that he must sit out the match because they want him to have his long-awaited operation on the injured leg he has been carrying all season. Needless to say Gary Mabbutt is devastated.

When it rains it pours!

"THE best goal I've seen this season," gasped England captain Bryan Robson after David Hirst's spectacular late winner for Sheffield Wednesday against Manchester United.

But the headlines meant nothing to the 19-year-old striker who cost Wednesday \$500,000 from Barnsley at the start of the season. A goal of any sort would have done — and the fact that it was a last-minute screamer was purely incidental.

More importantly, it brought a tide of relief after a seven-month drought.

Not since a sensational strike within a minute of his first appearance — as substitute against Everton back in August — had Hirst hit the target.

In between times he struggled desperately for the touch that brought him nine goals in his first season at Barnsley — and a top rating from Boss Alan Clarke.

Delighted

The former Leeds and England marksman alerted the whole country by describing Hirst as a natural goalscorer — so Clarke is as delighted as anyone that his young prodigy is starting to emerge.

So is Wednesday manager Howard Wilkinson, who says: "David needed time to settle. But he's now feeling more at home and looking like

the player I thought I'd bought. His goal against Manchester United was exceptional — and he's capable of producing more."

Hirst's verdict: "Just about the best goal I've ever scored. But it's not a case of me playing better than I was — just that the lack has started going my way. I've lost count of the number of near-misses — when somebody got a foot in or the goalkeeper just got a hand to the ball."

'Wonderboy'

"I knew people would be expecting a lot from me because of the fee. It's as if I was a wonderboy or something."

When it didn't happen I could feel what the fans must have been thinking

— but I never let worry me. Now I can score frequently and create my position.

"Ideally, I'd like to as many goals as my low Wednesday striker Lee Chapman."

At one stage, Hirst in the shadow of a product who Wednesday not Without the burden big price-tag to live u 18-year-old Carl Ishaw helped himse five goals while his illustrious rival stru to make the sub's ben

But Bradshaw looks up to Hirst, bing him to be the in for his own bu prominence. "I'd li be a good all-rounder David," he says. "got pace, skill and terrific shot," says Carl.

Now those qu are fast-emerging, least a potentially left foot.

TONY DORIGO, South Australia's England-based footballer has been transferred from Aston Villa to Chelsea for \$1.2 million.

Dorigo made the move finally to Stamford Bridge last week after rejecting the same club earlier in the season.

He has represented England at Under 21 level.



MICHEL PLATINI BIDS ADIEU . . .

THE great Frenchman MICHEL PLATINI has officially retired.

France's magnificent midfielder will never grace the world football stage again as a professional player.

Sadly the three-times European Footballer of the Year ended his monumental career last weekend when Juventus defeated Brescia 3-2.

His last game was an emotional one and the splendid midfielder was given a most deserved standing ovation at the end. Fittingly he went out a winner although his only regret was not winning the biggest prize of them all — the World Cup with France.

In fact that was the only prize he failed to collect in that illustrious career spanning just three clubs, Nancy, St. Etienne and Juventus.

With the champion Italian club he transferred to in 1982 he won the Championship, Cup, European Champions' Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup, European Super Cup and the World Club Championship.

During the World club championship it was Platini at his most sensational against Argentinian champions Argentinos Juniors. He scored one goal, had one

of the most amazing ever seen disallowed incorrectly and he laid on the other to level the game at 2-2 and take the match into penalties, where fittingly he struck the winner.

With the French national team he played in three World Cups, twice making the semi-finals, finishing fourth in 1982 and third in 1986 and won the European Championship at home in 1984. During European Championship Platini scored an incredible nine goals in five games!

Now that he has drawn the curtain, Platini will focus his attentions to his thriving sports store business in his native France and concentrate on the anti-drug campaign he is so deeply involved in.

It is not surprising to note that when Platini was not in top form Juventus rarely were also. For instance in this season's European Cup, Platini was unable to produce any of the sparkle against Spanish champions Real Madrid and the Zebras went out on penalties.

But often was the time that the Gaelic wizard would turn a game and win it almost

on his own for the Turin-based club.

There were plenty of rumours abounding that Platini would move to any number of clubs at the end of his contract with Juve. Teams such as Barcelona, St. Etienne, Racing de Paris (where Pierre Littbarski, Enzo Francescoli and Ruben Paz are unhappy), River Plate, Sampdoria were all named as likely candidates for his signature but Platini said in the end that he was happy to finish up with Juventus.

"Juventus and football in general has been very good to me," he says. "I could think of no better club to finish my career with and so it shall be.

"I've been proud to be involved in such great teams as France, Juventus and St. Etienne and will treasure the memories forever."

And so closes the final chapter of a truly magnificent sportsman and person.

Noting that France and Italy were his domains it is fitting to say, au revoir Signor Platini . . . and thanks for the memories.

GOTHENBURG of Sweden regained possession of the European Football Union (UEFA) Cup when they achieved an impressive 1-1 draw in the second leg of the final against Scotland's Dundee United.

The Swedes, winners in 1982 and fielding five survivors of that triumph, arrived in Scotland defending a slender 1-0 first leg advantage and they calmly absorbed the Scots' early onslaught to score a vital away goal after 23 minutes.

United, who had beaten both Barcelona and Borussia Moenchengladbach away from home earlier in the competition, refused to surrender and John Clark equalised in the 60th minute after he had been pushed into attack as an emergency striker.

But Gothenburg were worthy winners. They never appeared in any danger.

A RARE international goal by Liam Brady gave Ireland one of world Soccer's most prized scalps as they overcame Brazil 1-0 in Dublin yesterday.

It was Ireland's first home win under Jack Charlton's management and a perfect morale booster before next week's European championship qualifier in Luxembourg.

Ireland fulfilled Charlton's forecast that they would go one better than England — who drew with Brazil at Wembley on Tuesday — even though they spent

much of the match on the defensive.

The new generation of Brazilian youngsters may not yet be in the same class as their predecessors but they frequently ran rings around bewildered Irishmen.

It was Brazil's relaxed approach, however, which brought about their downfall in the 31st minute. Defenders stood off and allowed Brady all the time he needed to switch aim and shoot home from just inside the penalty area for only his ninth goal in 64 appearances for Ireland.

JIM Melrose's crusade to keep Charlton in the English first division continued when he netted the only goal in the London club's win over Leeds in the first leg of the play-off final.

The Scottish striker, whose double in the semi-final eliminated Ipswich, was on target again just three minutes from time to give his side a slim advantage for the daunting second leg at Leeds.

He steered home a Colin Walsh cross to end the second division club's dogged resistance, which had been inspired by superb second-half saves from Mervyn Day at the expense of Melrose and Walsh.

But there was one black spot for Charlton, winger Ralph Milne suffering a depressed fracture of the cheekbone,

which will rule him out of the second leg.

AN AMAZING miss from substitute Charlie Nicholas denied Scotland a morale-boosting win over arch-rivals England in the Rous Cup match at Hampden Park in Glasgow.

The Arsenal forward stabbed the ball against the bar from point-blank range in the 86th minute with the goal gaping wide.

The Scots never fashioned such a clear-cut opening again and so had to settle for only their third 0-0 result against their arch rivals. Neil Simpson, back in the Scotland team for the first time in many seasons, was one of the home revelations. Like newcomer Ian Wilson, he played calmly and simply when more experienced men around him tried the impossible.

In defence, Willie Miller was very sound. Indeed, it was hard to see why he had been ignored by Scotland this season.

The Aberdeen centreback rescued his side twice in the 15th minute, covering Alex McLeish on one occasion and then bravely blocking a charge through the middle by the powerful Mark Hateley.

In fact, it was 18 minutes before Jim Leighton was tested. One of many thrusting runs by Peter Beardsley gave Hateley a

chance on the left and the Aberdeen player did well to parry his shot.

ENGLAND: 1st leg English League Div 1/2 Promotion playoff final: Charlton 1 b Leeds 0 (halftime 0-0). Scorer: Jim Melrose (87th min). Crowd: 16,680. EFL 1st Div: Gillingham 1 b Swindon 0. Aldershot 2 b Wolverhampton 0.

INTERNATIONAL Scotland 0 England 0, at Hampden Park. Crowd: 68,000.

FRIENDLY Ireland 1 b Brazil 0. (halftime 1-0). Scorer: L Brady (31st min). Crowd: 20,000.

ITALY: UEFA CUP: Milan 1 b Sampdoria 0, extra time. Scorer: D Massaro (101st min). Crowd: 35,000.

SPAIN: 1st Div: Barcelona 2 b Real Madrid 1. (halftime 2-0). Scorers: Barcelona: R Fernandez (22nd min penalty, G Lineker 39th). Real Madrid: H Sanchez (54th). Crowd: 90,000. Standings: Real Madrid 59pts, Barcelona 57, Espanol 46.

FRENCH Div 1: Laval 2 Le Havre 1. RC Paris 3 Nice 1, Metz 3 Nantes 1, Saint-Etienne 2, Rennes 0. Brest 1 Bordeaux 1, Auxerre 0 Sochaux 0, Toulouse 2 Nancy 1, Monaco 1 Paris St Germain 1, Marseille 1 Lens 3, Lille 1 Toulon 1.

AUSTRIAN Div 1: VOEST Linz 1 Rapid Vienna 4, FC Tirol 2 Vienna Sportclub 2, Austria Wien 3 Admira Wacker 1, Sturm Graz 3 LASK Linz 4.

MANUEL Negrete, Mexico's acrobatic midfielder and scorer of that magic goal in last year's finals against Bulgaria with a flying scissor-kick, has joined Spain's Atletico Madrid.

A Platini Tribute



Cup in South Korea.

C. of the club through out day — by Paul

the players — Peter Watson, Graeme

WEST END NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

WEST
END

WEEKEND FIXTURES

WEST
END



ROUND 10

SUNDAY 2.30PM



MIDDLE PARK

SOUTH MELB v APIA-LEICHHARDT



TONY PEZZANO



DANNY WRIGHT



ROBBIE CULLEN

OLYMPIC PARK

BRUNSWICK JUVE v ST GEORGE



STEVE O'CONNOR

CHAPLIN RESERVE

SUNSHINE G.C. v MELB CROATIA



JOHN MARKOVSKI



IAN WALLACE

CONNOR RESERVE

PRESTON MAK v MARCONI



STEVE GOJEVIC



TOM MCCULLOCH

CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE

SYDNEY CROATIA v ADELAIDE CITY



GRAHAM ARNOLD



JOE MULLEN

ST GEORGE STADIUM

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v FOOTSCRAY

BEACH FASHIONS NSL CUP

TONIGHT (WEDNESDAY)

SYD CROATIA v HEIDELBERG

KICK-OFF 8PM

EARLY GAME 6.15PM

CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE

WITNESS THE BIG SYDNEY-MELBOURNE CUP CLASH

SECOND SEMI-FINAL

Proudly sponsored by **BEACH FASHIONS**



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